



Police Officers Trained to Teach T.E.A.M. in Michigan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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LANSING. Today, 20 law enforcement officers received certification at the Michigan State Police (MSP) Training Academy to teach personal safety lessons in schools. The officers are graduates of the Teaching, Educating, And Mentoring (T.E.A.M.) School Liaison Project developed by the MSP.

T.E.A.M. is a proactive effort to make schools and communities safer by promoting an understanding of social rules, the consequences of unlawful behavior and students' responsibilities as good citizens.

"It is rewarding to see the dedication and commitment these officers have shown to bring the important safety messages of T.E.A.M. to the classroom," said First Lieutenant Phil Hart, commander of the MSP Prevention Services Section. "With the program being presented in approximately 250 school districts, it requires the continued partnerships of schools, parents, communities and law enforcement agencies to promote safety among our children."

T.E.A.M. training allows officers to teach at any of the three levels of education; elementary, middle or high school. The elementary school curriculum teaches students basic safety rules such as bicycle and pedestrian safety, the proper use of 911, fire and gun prevention, and being safe on the internet.

The middle school curriculum is designed to improve the citizenship skills of students and provide an understanding of rules and laws in society. It also teaches teens how to recognize and be more aware of personal safety issues. The curriculum also exposes students to the cause and effect of violence and teaches them how to constructively handle conflict.

The high school curriculum provides a realistic picture of the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement officers. It also educates students in the practical application of constitutional law and creates awareness regarding personal safety issues such as sexual harassment and bias-motivated violence (hate crimes). The high school curriculum also provides a realistic look at the causes of anger and how to resolve conflicts and develop good problem solving skills.

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In 2005, a Family Preparedness/Homeland Security lesson was added to T.E.A.M. to teach all ages the importance of being involved in their community and how to prepare in advance for natural and manmade disasters. The lesson plan includes creating a “go-kit” containing the necessary items every family needs during an emergency.

The newest module, which is sponsored by DOW Automotive, is a defensive driving lesson for beginning drivers called “Arrive Alive.” It is designed to provide students with a practical application and information on defensive driving.

Since introducing T.E.A.M. in Michigan in 1998, the program has been shared with officers in Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Colorado.

Officers attending this session of T.E.A.M. training included:

Department	Rank	First Name	Last Name
Auburn Hills Police Department	Officer	Dan	DiTomaso
Benton Harbor Police Department	Officer	Carleton	Brooks
Benton Harbor Police Department	Officer	Jerol	Williams
Berrien County Sheriff's Office	Deputy	Steven	Campbell
Buchanan Police Department	Officer	Michael	Troup
Calhoun County Sheriff's Office	Deputy	Luis	Rivera
City of Wayne Police Department	Officer	Terrance	Springer
Ferndale Police Department	Officer	Keith	Thibodeau
Grand Rapids Schools – DPS	Officer	Arnell	Fleming
Grand Rapids Schools – DPS	Officer	Christina	Johnson
Hart Police Department	Officer	Kevin	Skipski
Lansing Police Department	Officer	Antonio	Sandoval
Livonia Police Department	Officer	Daniel	McCulley
Monroe County Sheriff's Office	Deputy	Michael	Preadmore
Mt. Pleasant Police Department	Deputy	Kevin	Dush, Jr.
Mt. Pleasant Police Department	Deputy	Jason	Kenney
Royal Oak Police Department	Officer	Albert	Carter
Royal Oak Police Department	Officer	Michael	Frazier
Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office	Deputy	Lisa	Farst
White Lake Twp. Police Department	Officer	Jeffrey	Way

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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