

# Memorandum



DATE: February 6, 2015

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee:  
Sheffie Kadane (Chair), Adam Medrano (Vice Chair), Dwaine Caraway, Jennifer S. Gates,  
Sandy Greyson, Scott Griggs

SUBJECT: **Citizens' Fire Academy**

On Monday, February 9, 2015, you will be briefed on the Citizens' Fire Academy. The briefing materials are attached for your review.



Eric D. Campbell  
Assistant City Manager

## Attachment

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager  
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager  
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer  
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer  
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY



**Public Safety Committee**  
**February 9, 2015**



# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

Mission: To provide citizens with an overview of Dallas Fire-Rescue services, increase fire and life safety awareness, and promote the customer service aspect of our department





# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Objectives:

- Impart information on core job functions
- Engage students during demonstrations
- Share volunteer opportunities available within the City of Dallas
- Provide CPR certification training
- Provide fire prevention and disaster preparedness education



# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Benefits to the City:

Public safety is improved through enhancement of community outreach by increasing involvement, communication and education.





# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Safety:

State certified instructors are utilized to train citizens. Safety is emphasized during classroom instruction and hands-on training.

Citizens participating will be taught valuable life safety skills offered as part of CPR certification training during the academy.



# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Customer Service:

The citizens' fire academy focuses on customer service. Students are educated on what we do and why we do it.

The 8-week academy is conducted at the Dallas Fire-Rescue Training Center on Thursday evenings (6:00 p.m.)



# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Training topics:

- Hazardous materials operations
- Emergency dispatch operations
- Fire tactics and strategies
- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Equipment familiarization
- Fire prevention and education
- Hiring process
- Training process





# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Tentative Schedule:

- Week 1: Welcome and overview of Dallas Fire-Rescue to include the organizational structure of the Department as well as the hiring process. Students will take a field trip to the Dallas Firefighters Museum to learn about the history of the Department
- Week 2: Fire behavior, apparatus familiarization, protective clothing and the self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) will be discussed. Students will also learn about Emergency Communications and how the dispatch process works. This week also includes a field trip to Fire Dispatch
- Week 3: Water supplies, fire streams, hydraulic principles, pump operations and fire hose will be introduced as well as the different applications for their use. The Inspection and Life Safety Education Division as well as Arson Investigation will discuss their roles within the Department

# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Tentative Schedule (cont.):

- Week 4: This weeks topics will be building construction types, ventilation and forcible entry methods. Students will also be given an overview of the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) program as well as Chaplain Services
- Week 5: Lessons this week include the Hazardous Materials Response team, an introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS) and a presentation from the Emergency Medical Services Bureau. Students will be given an opportunity to view a Rescue (ambulance) unit for hands on inspection
- Week 6: Students will be trained and certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation by an American Heart Association instructor

# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

## Tentative Schedule (cont.):

- Week 7: Firefighting equipment and tactics will be taught. Students will be given an opportunity to practice with their protective gear, preparing them for the live burns scheduled for the last day of the Academy
- Week 8: Students will be taught vehicle extrication techniques and will have an opportunity for hands on training. This week also includes search techniques and procedures followed by actual searches in the training apartment and burn building



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- CFA is being promoted through media along with [www.dallasfirerescue.com](http://www.dallasfirerescue.com) and [www.dallasnewsroom.com](http://www.dallasnewsroom.com) websites. Home Owner Associations are also mailed promotional letters
- Application enrollment period will be January 19 – February 20. Interested participants may obtain applications on-line or by calling the Fire Training Center (214-670-0231)
- Selection criteria: 18 years of age or older, background check conducted, must work or live in the City of Dallas, first come/first served. Class size will be limited to 20 students
- Dallas Fire Rescue (DFR) has embraced the world of social media through Twitter. DFR uses twitter to connect with our local and national stakeholders, media outlets and anyone that has an interest in all things DFR. Since inception twitter has been used to alert citizens related to Ebola precautions, Inclement weather events, Earthquake preparedness and other types of information to make Dallas a safer city. The DFR twitter handle is DallasFireRes\_q

# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

- March 26 is the start date for the 2015 class
- On Saturday, May 23rd students will participate in hands-on training with a graduation ceremony to follow. Graduates will be presented with certificates and photos will be taken during the ceremony

# CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

What past graduates expressed:

“...how truly grateful I am for the training and CPR certification that you provided us. Because of that training I was able to help resuscitate my sister's 75 year old father...” – R. Moore

“The entire program was timely and well put together. This makes me have even more respect for you all and what you do.” - L. Murphy



# QUESTIONS?

