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9/19/08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE # CBO-05

**Subject : Redondo Beach Police Citizen Academy Class #29**

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The Redondo Beach Police Department will be hosting the 29<sup>th</sup> Citizen Police Academy on Thursday, October 2, 2008.

The first Redondo Beach Citizen Police Academy began in the Spring of 1994. The goal of the program is to provide members of the community with a working knowledge of the Police department along, with the roles and responsibilities of its members. This is accomplished through lecture, hands-on training, demonstrations and a ride-along with a Police Officer.

The program is part of an on-going effort to improve Police-community relations. It is strongly believed that the more information the public has about the Redondo Beach Police Department, the less likely they will be suspicious, fearful or hold any misconceptions about Police operations. Many conflicts are caused simply by a lack of understanding. The graduates of the academy not only become better informed, but they can bring back a solid foundation of information back to the community. The result is a closer and more positive relationship between the Police department and the community we serve.

The program works toward the concept of Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (C.O.P.P.S.). The graduates provide an informed community base for input into the partnership between the community and the Police department. Community input, with better information and support, helps to focus Police activities and allow officers to respond with more appropriate actions and effective results.

The class is typically comprised of Redondo Beach community members, including residents and business people. It is anticipated that the class participants will be a cross section of residents throughout Redondo Beach. Class size is limited and filling up fast.

The participants will meet for two and a half hours, one night per week for twelve weeks. The information covered includes Police training, S.W.A.T., traffic, criminal investigation, K-9, gangs and narcotics. There will be an emphasis on the patrol division, since it is this unit that has the majority of public contact. A graduation for the attendees is held at the conclusion of the class.

To obtain an application, log onto <http://www.redondo.org/depts/police/volunteer/default.asp> or contact Community Police Officer Ian Miesen at 310-379-2477 x 1-2493 or via email at [ian.miesen@redondo.org](mailto:ian.miesen@redondo.org).