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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject : Redondo Beach Police Citizens' Academy Class #35

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The 35th Citizens' Police Academy will start on Wednesday, March 14, 2012.

The purpose of the academy is to enhance the partnership between the Redondo Beach Police Department and members of the community. The class is presented in an interactive, hands-on lecture format taught by Police employees. The Redondo Beach Citizens' Police Academy began in the spring of 1994.

In fourteen sessions, twelve Wednesday nights (6:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and two Saturday mornings, participants will learn about Police training, S.W.A.T., traffic enforcement, criminal investigations, gangs and narcotics, K-9, Police Department operations and CSI. Participants can go on a ride along with a Police Officer. A graduation for the attendees is held at the conclusion of the class.

The academy provides participants the opportunity to understand Police operations. One goal of the academy is to create a closer, more positive relationship between the Police department and the community we serve.

Comments from the last few classes have included:

"When a Police car used to pull behind me, I would slow down or wait to be stopped...now I look to see who the Officer is in case I met them in the academy." Adam B.

"I didn't really expect much from the program. I thought it sounded interesting, but honestly, I expected a bunch of stiff officers to lecture me on their day-to-day lives... I couldn't be more wrong." Lily T.

"It has brought me a new understanding of not only law enforcement but also the mechanics of what is happening in my community." Natalie E.

The class is typically comprised of Redondo Beach community members, including residents and business people. The class size is limited and fills up quickly.

To obtain an application, log onto www.redondo.org/police or contact Ofc. Don Martinez at Donald.martinez@redondo.org 310-379-2477 ext 2565.