

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- **What is done on the testing day?**

The written exam (civil service test) is administered in the morning and the fitness test is administered in the afternoon.
- **What is on the civil service test?**

The civil service test covers reading comprehension, memory skills, and map reading. It is 100 questions with multiple choice answers.
- **What is the attire for the testing day?**

Please wear business casual for the written test and bring a set of work out clothes for the fitness test. A locker room is available to change clothes.
- **How many applicants are registered for the test?**

This will range from about 60-80 applicants per test, on average.
- **How many openings are there?**

We will be hiring 35-40 new officers annually for the next five years.
- **When does the academy start?**

We have training classes that start quarterly. However, we can set a start date for someone as soon as their application is processed.
- **What is the processing time?**

We average a processing time of less than 60 days from the testing day.
- **Do I need a Criminal Justice degree or my 60 hours in Criminal Justice?**

No, we accept any classes from a regionally accredited school. A regional accreditation would be from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) or its equivalent. Most state colleges and community colleges have a regional accreditation.
- **What shifts do patrol officer's work?**

Our patrol officers work 12 hour shifts. We have two day shifts and two night shifts. They are from 6:00am-6:00pm, 7:00am-7:00pm, 6:00pm-6:00am, and 7:00pm-7:00am.
- **What days off do patrol officers have?**

Patrol officers have 3 days off one week and 4 days off the next week, with one of their shifts being an eight hour day. Some of the officers have Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday off or Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday off.
- **When do the benefits start?**

Benefits start on your first day of work.
- **What areas are the main disqualifiers for applicants?**

Disqualifiers include: (listed in descending order)

 1. Work History
 2. Recent Criminal Activities
 3. Excessive Drug Usage

4. Poor Educational Performance
5. Poor Credit History
6. Incomplete Application
7. Poor Driving Record

- **I am in the military now. When should I apply?**

We will need your official DD214 in order to complete your background process and get you completely hired. You will need to take the police test that is closest to when you will have your official DD214. We will need your DD214 within 30 days after you take a police test.

- **Does my DD214 need to show Honorable Discharge?**

Yes, this is one of our requirements. We can not accept any other disposition other than Honorable.

- **What is the police academy like?**

The police academy hours are generally 8am-5pm, Monday-Friday. The training curriculum is an adult education program. Most of the training is classroom training with some fitness activities. This training is NOT similar to military boot camp.

- **What is the academy training for a Lateral Police Officer?**

Police officers who are TCLEOSE certified with at least 12 months of patrol experience are eligible for an abbreviated training program. This consists of 9 weeks of updates on policies and procedures and field training which is based on performance.

Police Officers who are not TCLEOSE certified at the time of hire, with at least 12 months patrol experience, may attend a full academy to obtain the TCLEOSE certification. This will be based on the number of Lateral Officers hired. A Lateral's only training class may be offered if enough Lateral Officers are hired at one time. The Lateral's only class will be 4 weeks of updates, 9 weeks of policies and procedures, and field training based on performance.