What You Can Expect to Learn:

- An overview of the criminal justice process.
- The roles of law enforcement, prosecutor, defense attorney, judge and probation officer in a criminal case.
- Diversity and racial issues within the framework of the criminal justice system.
- Perceptions of disparity in the criminal justice system.
- How you can have a positive impact on the criminal justice system.

To apply visit:
www.sacda.org
(Under - In the Community)

Application Deadline:
March 22, 2024

Qualifications:
You must be at least 18 years old and live or work in Sacramento County.

For Questions:
Contact Kristy Lao: 916.874.5251
LaoK@sacda.org

For additional information about these agencies visit:
Sacramento County DA's Office
www.sacda.org
Sacramento County Superior Court
www.saccourt.ca.gov
Sacramento City Police Department
www.sacpd.org
Sacramento County Probation Department
saccoprobation.saccounty.gov
Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office
www.sacsheriff.com
What is Citizens Academy?
Citizens Academy is a FREE 10-week course designed to inform and educate on the criminal justice system, develop relationships, and establish trust by opening lines of communication.

The Mission & Vision of Citizens Academy
The Mission is to provide information and resources, mutual learning, critical analysis of issues, and exchange of ideas and perspectives.

The Vision is to achieve improved relationships and communication within the criminal justice system.

There are several unique components to the Citizens Academy:

- A broad range of class topics and discussions.
- A diverse group of speakers and participants.
- Field trips to the District Attorney’s Crime Lab and Sacramento Police Department’s 911 Communications Center.

Spring 2024 Class
Tentative Schedule & Topics:

Week 1: Introduction to Law Enforcement Agencies in Our Community

Week 2: The Role of the District Attorney: Anatomy of a Prosecution & Special Challenges for Prosecutors - Collaborative Courts - Community Government Relations Bureau

Week 3: “Can We Talk?” Understanding Use of Force

Week 4: Semper Justitia

Week 5: “The Big Picture” - The Hypothetical Case: Anatomy of a Criminal Case From Offense, Investigation, Trial, Sentencing

Week 6: CSI Today - On Scene Investigations, Crime Lab Analysis - Gangs

Week 7: Specialized Areas of Prosecution - Victim/Witness, Domestic Violence, Elder Abuse, Juvenile Prosecution

Week 8: Crime Lab

Week 9: Coroner’s Office

Week 10: “From Rhetoric to Reality - Where Do We Go From Here?”, Building Bridges & Partnerships and Community Participation

* All field trips are TBD

What Citizens Academy Graduates Say...

“It’s a wonderful program, we found out about it through NextDoor. It helps educate you and get you involved. It bridges the gap between the community and law enforcement.” - Sylvia Franklin

“I loved how open everyone was, it was very transparent. We also loved the Sheriff’s Department ride along and the different tours we got to take.” - Jenny Franklin

“I really enjoyed this program. As a college student, I wanted to be part of the law enforcement program and I think this program gave me a better understanding of the District Attorney, the Defense Attorney, and law enforcement.” - Zabrina Torres

“The Citizens Academy provided an informative, candid and revealing look at the inner workings of our law enforcement and criminal justice systems. We learned from knowledgeable insiders and were given a unique, behind-the-scenes view of the challenges they face everyday. Every class was fascinating.” - Joe Selewicz

2023 Citizens Academy Graduates