



City of Red Bluff
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kyle Sanders
Chief of Police

555 Washington St., Red Bluff, CA 96080

PRESS RELEASE



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

In November 2012, the Red Bluff Police Department implemented a volunteer program (V.I.P.S.- Volunteers in Police Service). This volunteer program was started for several reasons. First, a goal of the police department was getting citizens involved in their community and the police department. Another goal of the program was augmenting the staffing shortages facing the department at the time. Ten people were invited to the first V.I.P.S. academy. The academy is a ten week training course that is held typically on a Saturday mornings.

The academy teaches a variety of topics that V.I.P.S. members would encounter while volunteering at the police department. The students are taught basic CPR/ first aid, defensive driving techniques, history of law enforcement, and laws regarding parking violations to name a few. The training doesn't end at the conclusion of the academy. New members must complete ride-a-longs with patrol officers and complete several training sessions before patrolling on their own.

Since the first academy, the staffing at the Red Bluff Police Department has recovered and the department is currently at full staff. However, police administrators saw the benefits to the department and the community using the V.I.P.S. program. Since the program began, RBPD volunteers have donated over 5000 hours. Additionally, since the program began, three V.I.P.S. members have become full time employees at the police department.

Members of the V.I.P.S. program come from all walks of life. Currently, we have a retired sheriff, a school teacher, an insurance agent, an office assistant and several retired people, just to name a few.

The police department is seeking to increase the number of volunteers and is accepting applications for the program. The deadline for the applications is August 12, 2016. There are a few minimum requirements that applicants must have to be considered for this program. They must be at least 18 years of age, possess a valid driver's license, have NO felony convictions, and must have a clean background. No law enforcement background is required.



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The Red Bluff Police Department will be conducting another V.I.P.S. academy. The academy is anticipated to begin on Saturday October 1, 2016.

Anyone interested in this program is encouraged to contact Sergeant Kevin Busekist at kbusekist@rbpd.org or Lead VIPS Clay Parker at cparker@rbpd.org or by telephoning the police department at (530) 527-3131 .

Sergeant Busekist