



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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CRIMEFIGHTERS WANTED

City to Give New Police Examination

June 26, 1012 (Akron, Ohio) - With the announcement that the City will receive a \$1.5 million Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant to be used to hire 12 new police officers (all must be U.S. veterans), the City will be offering a new police examination with the intent to hire at least 33 new police officers. The City has already extended conditional job offers to eight candidates pending OPOTA certification and other mandatory evaluations, so a new test could net at least 33 hires in addition to those eight. A hire of this magnitude will bring the police force to 12 over its budgeted strength of 447.

The federal dollars come through a new program to hire recently U.S. military veterans. The program requires that all new officers hired with COPS funds must have served at least 180 days of active military service, any part of which occurred on or after Sept. 11, 2001

The last police entrance examination was given in 2008, and from that test 17 new officers were hired this year -- eight in February and nine more this month. Eight more candidates from that test have conditional offers pending.

"This grant provides the impetus to move our police force to budgeted strength and beyond," said Mayor Plusquellic. "These jobs are tough and they are certainly dangerous at times; but, being a police officer can be incredibly rewarding and even fun. Not only that, but we offer one of the strongest benefits packages in the state, if not the nation."

Among the qualifications candidates must meet:

- 21-31 years old (We may be modifying this for next test)
- Accredited high school or vocational school graduation or equivalent
- Physical and medical standards
- Valid Ohio driver's license

Candidates must also pass written tests, physical skills test, medical and psychological tests, background investigation and a polygraph examination.

The City of Akron also awards bonus points for those recruits who meet a residency requirement, served in the armed forces of the United States and were honorably discharged, and/or completed accredited college course work.

The City's generous benefits package offers comprehensive medical insurance, life insurance at no cost, paid vacation time, sick leave and 14 paid holidays.

Men and women interested in applying to take the police examination should call _____ for more information.

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