



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 17th, 2012

Space available for 9-1-1 Communications Citizen's Academy in **March**

KING COUNTY – Local residents will have a prime opportunity to learn about the internal workings of the 9-1-1 emergency dispatch center when the next *9-1-1 Citizen's Academy* is held on **March 31st, 2012**.

Applications are now being accepted for the Academy. Space is limited and completed applications should be turned in as soon as possible. The application deadline is **Friday, March 9th, 2012**.

The Academy is open to anyone at least 18 years old with no felony convictions, and who lives or works in King County.

The all day class includes information on the history of 9-1-1, call-taking and police dispatching, our training program, King County geography, agency partnerships, citizen training, and our CALEA Accreditation process and what that means for our citizens.

The goal of the Academy is to educate citizens about the role 9-1-1 Communications Specialists play in the public safety system and prepare them should they ever need to dial 9-1-1.

In addition to the classroom session, Academy participants will be scheduled to spend two 2-hour sessions with an on-duty Communications Specialist. The first time will be before the academy, and the second after the academy. The "sit-along" time will offer a practical demonstration of the lessons learned in the Academy.

Applications are available on the King County Sheriff's Office website:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/sheriff/Enforcement/911Center/2012CitizensAcademy.aspx>.

You can also request the applications by calling our Hotline at 206-205-6625, or by sending an email request to: KCSO911FB@kingcounty.gov