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For Immediate Release

June 16, 2009

El Camino College Police Reserve Academy Plans Graduation Ceremony

The El Camino College Police Reserve Academy has planned a graduation ceremony at 6 p.m. June 19 in the Campus Theater.

Graduates include 49 cadets who will be qualified to perform many of the duties assigned to standard peace officers, serving local government agencies – all on a volunteer basis.

"We congratulate our cadets who have the training and skills as other officers, but donate their time to the community," said El Camino College Police Chief Michael Trevis. "I have known reserve officers who are also teachers, doctors, lawyers, and mechanics – people from all walks of life: moms, dads, grandparents – who serve others."

Police reserve training attracts civic-minded people who want to serve the community. Others join the academy in the hopes to be more marketable when searching for a peace officer position at a city department other agency.

Reserve officers fulfill a variety of jobs, including front counter/community outreach work, neighborhood watch, search and rescue, youth programs, and special events support, such as parades and community festivals. The Los Angeles County Sherriff's Department has about 2,000 citizen volunteers on the roster; other South Bay departments have anywhere from one to 100 reserve officers on staff.

Established in 1974, the El Camino College Police Reserve Academy has graduated more than 4,000 cadets who have moved on to careers in public safety, or continue to serve as volunteers. The academy operates in collaboration with area police departments and includes an 18-week education and training program offered on weekends and evenings. The program is certified by California Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.), and covers academics, marksmanship, investigations, fitness, pursuit driving, law, narcotics enforcement, firearms, forensics, traffic collision investigation, traffic enforcement, arrest tactics, and first aid/CPR, among other topics.

For more information about the El Camino College Police Reserve Academy, call 310-660-3100.