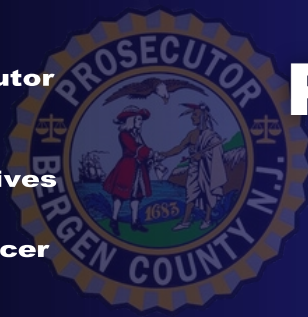


**First Assistant Prosecutor
Heather Suffin**

**Deputy Chief of Detectives
Jeff Angermeyer
Public Information Officer**



PRESS RELEASE

**BERGEN COUNTY PROSECUTOR
MARK MUSELLA**

For Immediate Release:

February 7, 2025

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2025 BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY

The Bergen County Prosecutor's Office and Bergen County Sheriff's Office are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the Bergen County Youth Police Academy – Class #19.

The Academy is a two-week program that is offered to Bergen County young men and women entering the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades. There is no charge to attend the program, which is funded with monies forfeited from criminal enterprises. This year's Academy will run from July 7 through July 18, 2025.

The motto of the Bergen County Youth Police Academy is "Honor – Respect – Commitment." The objective is to educate the cadets about public service including law enforcement, the judiciary, emergency services, and county government.

"Youth Academy is a unique opportunity for young people to focus on strengthening their life skills of self-respect, respect of others, teamwork, and commitment to one's goals," stated Prosecutor Mark Musella. "Staffed by law enforcement professionals from both the Prosecutor's Office and Sheriff's Office, the Academy provides high school students with a real understanding of what police academy cadets experience."

The curriculum will consist of interactive educational activities as well as physical training activities. Daily programs include presentations from law enforcement professionals, interaction with county, state, and federal agencies, and field trips.

"Through hands-on experiences and educational sessions, participants gain insight into the importance of community relations, government operations, and interagency collaboration," stated Sheriff Anthony Cureton. "The program also emphasizes leadership development, equipping students with essential skills to become responsible and engaged members of their communities."

Application forms are available at local high schools, police departments, or online at www.BCPO.net/youthacademy and must be submitted by Friday, April 25, 2025. Space is limited. If you have any questions, contact the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office Community Engagement Division at 201-226-5511, or outreach@bcpo.net.