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SHEBOYGAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

Sheboygan Police Launch Hmong Language Citizens' Academy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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CASE NO. (none)

The Sheboygan Police Department is announcing it will be hosting a citizens' academy targeting the city's Hmong Community this fall.

The academy will be similar to the department's successful citizens' academy from previous years, but will be presented in Hmong to reach out to members of the Hmong community with limited English language ability. The academy is being presented as a collaboration between the Sheboygan Police Department and Sheboygan's Hmong Mutual Assistance Association.

The concept of a Hmong-language citizens academy was developed by Officer Bruce Yang. Officer Yang also serves as the President of the Sheboygan Hmong Mutual Assistance Association. This has developed into a productive liason between these two agencies.

The academy will include instruction on topics such as department operation, investigation procedures and techniques, prosecution and court processes, and special department functions.

As the Hmong Community has grown in Sheboygan, the need to work with members of the Hmong community to confront crime and disorder problems has grown as well. It is our hope that through a successful program, that this academy will provide an opportunity to strengthen communication and collaboration between the Police Dept. and

the Hmong community.

We are looking forward to the opportunity to build the relationship our department has with Hmong members of our community so that we can work together to improve the quality of life for all Sheboygan Residents. The Hmong academy is a way to foster a greater understanding of how our department operates and responds to reported crimes or quality of life concerns. We expect that it will lead to greater cooperation and collaborative problem solving.

The academy will be held Sunday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 PM, at the Sheboygan Police Department, running from October 6th through November 10th. Anyone interested in participating should complete an application by Monday, September 30th. Applications are available on the Sheboygan Police Department Website at www.sheboyganpolice.com, at the front desk of the Sheboygan Police Department, or through the Hmong Mutual Assistance Association at 2304 Superior Ave.
