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I want to thank you for your interest in the Polk County Sheriff's Office Public Safety Cadet Program. The program consists of regular monthly meetings that provide Cadets with career preparation trainings along with additional job shadow opportunities, competitive and recreational activities and community outreach opportunities. Please visit [www.publicsafetycadets.org](http://www.publicsafetycadets.org) for further details about the National non-profit organization.

The mission of the Public Safety Cadets is to mentor young adults to serve their communities by providing knowledge, skills and practical experiences through education and training delivered by public safety professionals that build character, physical fitness, and respect for the rule of law and human and civil rights. The vision statement of the organization is preparing young adults for careers and leadership in the public safety profession.

Eligibility requirements to enroll into the program include:

- Must be age 14 (and graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> grade) through age 20 (age-out at 21<sup>st</sup> birthday).
- Must not have a prior conviction for a significant criminal offense or serious traffic offense.
- Must demonstrate and maintain a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average in high school or college to remain in the program.
- Must undergo a thorough background review to assess character and integrity.
- Must complete a basic training course, to include the Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention training.

Through involvement in the program, Cadets develop an awareness of the purpose, mission and objectives of public safety organizations. Many of our members have gone onto careers in law enforcement with local, state, and federal agencies. Volunteer hours towards the program are documented and can be used for high school silver cords hours, college admission applications and job applications.

Enclosed is the enrollment application which needs to be completed and returned to begin the enrollment process. Please note that you will need to attach your most current report card or transcript. Upon receiving the application and conducting the background review, a meeting will be scheduled with a Polk County Sheriff's Office Public Safety Cadet Mentor, yourself and a parent/legal guardian (if the applicant is under the age of 18).

I look forward to meeting you! I am available to help answer any questions or concerns that you may have about the Polk County Sheriff's Office Public Safety Cadet Program.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Brian Johns  
Community Relations – Public Safety Cadets Lead Mentor  
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