



**ALLAN
HANCOCK
COLLEGE**
Law Enforcement Training

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Subject: Are you between the age of 18-21 and wanting a career in law enforcement?

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We often receive inquiries from prospective recruits, asking what they need to do in order prepare themselves to attend the law enforcement academy. There are three things you should consider doing and the sooner, the better.

1. Stop doing stupid stuff.
2. Stay in school and at least obtain a part-time job.
3. Stay in shape.

When I say stop doing stupid stuff, I mean drugs, alcohol, crimes, mischief, driving recklessly, drunk driving, partying, and any other activity that would embarrass your grandmother if she were to see it posted on your Facebook page. This also means stop hanging out with others who do the above mentioned activities. If you have a Facebook page, turn it off. It is not your friend and will only come back to haunt you when your police background investigator examines your posts of stupid activity.

Most law enforcement agencies want to see at least three years since your last stupid incident. If you are 18 and just graduated from high school, then start acting like someone who wants a career in the law enforcement profession. It is much easier than you think and requires the ability to say, "No, I don't want to do that".

Next, stay in school and focus on reading/writing/communication skills. We do not have time in the academy to teach you how to write correctly. Police work requires extensive report writing skills. While you are in school, work at least part-time and show a history of steady work and that you demonstrate a solid work ethic.

Stay in shape. Exercise at least 3 times a week. Do not let yourself get in the habit of eating poorly and not taking care of yourself. If you choose to get into the law enforcement profession, you lose the right to be unfit.

A 2nd option is to join the military and serve your country. It is a great way to mature, receive great training, see the world, make life-long friends and make a difference. If you choose this route, remember the three rules listed above still apply. A 3rd option is to seek employment as a custody deputy, since you can start that job before the age of 21 and that will prepare you to take the next step as a peace officer.

When you turn 21, come to our pre-academy (LE310) and see if you have what it takes to be a member of the AHC Law Enforcement Academy. If you promise to apply the three rules above, I promise to provide you with the best law enforcement training possible.

Sincerely,



Ken George
Coordinator, Law Enforcement Academy
Retired Lieutenant, Santa Maria Police Department
Former U.S. Marine