

# EPD Community Involvement

Activity/Program	Description
<b>Active Shooter Presentations</b>	Purpose is to educate citizens and businesses about active shooter protocol, what to do with suspicious packages and unwanted communications.
<b>Chief for the Day</b>	Recipients of this award are provided with an opportunity to go on a private tour of the police department, meet department staff which includes one-on one time with the police chief, SWAT, K9 Teams, dispatchers, and much more. Chief for the Day may be awarded to citizens multiple times a year via school events, community organizations, fundraisers, etc.
<b>Citizen's Police Academy - English &amp; Spanish</b>	This program provides an informative overview of the fundamentals of police operations and the various specialty units within the department for anyone 18 years of age and older. The format includes lecture-style presentations by EPD officers and staff, as well as some hands-on experiences.
<b>Citizen's Police Academy - Senior</b>	Based off the Citizen's Police Academy, this program gives seniors who are at least 55 year of age the opportunity to learn about the department's Tactical Response Team, K-9 Unit, Drug and Gang Units, and much more.
<b>Citizen's Police Academy - Teen</b>	Based off the Citizen's Police Academy, program provides youths between the ages of 12-18 an opportunity to learn about traffic stops, negotiations, gangs, evidence collection, SWAT and drugs, along with hands-on activities such as handcuffing, fingerprinting, mock searches, fitness routines, marching in formation, and shooting simulations.
<b>Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association</b>	Elgin's Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) is a not-for-profit organization boasting more than 70 members who support the department through volunteerism and fundraising. CPAAA members are department ambassadors for the department. Upon successful completion of the Citizen's Police Academy, graduates may apply to become members of CPAAA.
<b>Coffee with a Cop</b>	Citizens have an opportunity to converse with police department employees, learn about new initiatives, ask questions, and voice their concerns.
<b>CSI Citizen Evidence Class</b>	Provides an overview of basic crime scene processing procedures.

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Explorers</b></p>	<p>The Explorer Program enhances the relationship between the police department and youth residing in Elgin and surrounding communities. This program is affiliated with Boy Scouts of America, though both males and females are welcome. The program objectives are: Facilitate exposure to various criminal justice careers and positive interaction with law enforcement professionals; Provide hands-on experience and awareness of the criminal justice system, thereby helping Explorers make an informed decision regarding a career in law enforcement or related field ; Serve the community by assisting the police department in a supplementary law enforcement and liaison capacity; Facilitate personal growth through building self-confidence, utilizing team work, engaging in challenging experiences, and setting high standards of performance and personal conduct; Enhance character development and improve physical and mental fitness; and, Learn responsibility to one's self and others through leadership.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Internet Safety Program for Parents</b></p>	<p>Provides an overview of internet safety tips for parents to teach their children.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Kids United</b></p>	<p>This free program aims to ensure children residing in Elgin Township mature into responsible citizens by creating a positive environment for youths to make informed and responsible decisions while challenging and supporting the development of life skills. Participants can expect to engage in the following type of activities, if they so choose: Art; Basketball; Cooking; Dodgeball; Floor hockey; Life skills lessons; Movies; Soccer; Substance abuse prevention; and, Swimming.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Landlord Training</b></p>	<p>The Landlord Training Program is mandatory for all residential rental license holders in Elgin. This is an informative training opportunity that is required by city ordinance 6.37.100: Owner Responsibility to Attend. The class is taught by police officers from the Crime- Free Housing Unit. Rental property owners and managers will also benefit from this seminar and are welcome to attend. An array of topics are discussed, which include: Successful criminal and civil applicant screening; Benefits of effective crime-free lease addendums; Recognition of gang and drug activity; Successful civil evictions; and, Legal issues in rental housing.</p>

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<p><b>Neighborhood Watch</b></p>	<p>Elgin has 140 Neighborhood Watch Groups. Neighborhood Watch Groups are the eyes and the ears of the community. All groups have a Block Captain. Block Captains, along with neighbors, are encouraged to become actively involved in crime prevention efforts, as well as the important process of information exchange between neighbors and the police department.</p>
<p><b>Not in our Town Video Series</b></p>	<p>A movement to stop hate, address bullying and build safe, inclusive communities for all. Group participants watch a videos about hate crimes that have occurred across the country. The videos are intended to be thought provoking and gives participants an opportunity to discuss how the video impacted them. Fosters collaboration amongst citizens to reduce the propensity for hate crimes in our town.</p>
<p><b>Police Neighborhood Walk &amp; Talks</b></p>	<p>Citizens are provided with an opportunity to meet police department employees without having to leave their homes. Employees walk through an assigned neighborhood with the ultimate goal of introducing themselves, and offering assistance, answering questions, and learn about the overall concerns residents have.</p>
<p><b>Police Open House Events</b></p>	<p>An opportunity for the community to visit the police department, meet with staff, and learn about patrol, specialized divisions, and citizen programs, etc.</p>
<p><b>Ride-Alongs</b></p>	<p>Through an application process, citizens to ride with officers in police department vehicles, thereby increasing officer awareness of community concerns while also educating citizens as to police functions.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROPE Events</b></p>	<p>Officers choose 31 kids, ranging from ages 9-12, selected from their ROPE areas, based on leadership potential, family need, and the belief that the child could benefit from this camp. Leadership and team skills are stressed throughout camp. In addition, the children will participate in fun traditional camp activities such as swimming; hiking; campfires; archery; and, canoeing. The purpose of the camp is to challenge each child and give them confidence to believe in themselves. Being that some of these children are at-risk, this camp will afford them the opportunity to develop skills to help them make better choices in life.</p>
	<p>Officers and residents join together to celebrate the holiday festivities.</p>
	<p>Officers and residents join together to celebrate the fall season.</p>
	<p>Officers engaging with the community and fostering teamwork via basketball, fishing, golfing, flag football, and soccer.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Security Through Surveillance</b></p>	<p>Security Through Surveillance (STS) is an innovative initiative in which the police department partners with businesses and homeowners to prevent and solve crime through the use of surveillance technology. The main program objective is twofold; first, to improve investigative efficiencies by employing registered surveillance cameras. Second, to strengthen and utilize the partnership that exists between the police and community. When a crime occurs, a resident or business may unknowingly record the crime, possible suspects, or an escape route the criminals used. If private surveillance cameras are not registered, the information captured is often lost to law enforcement personnel.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spanish Community Conversation</b></p>	<p>Provides an opportunity for the Spanish community to discuss their concerns, ask questions, and provide input. Fosters relationship building between the Spanish community and the police department.</p>

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<p><b>Youth Advisory Board</b></p>	<p>An opportunity for the youths between the ages of 13-19 to bring forward their questions, ideas, and concerns to the police department. Provides teens with an opportunity to learn more about the police department and fosters relationship building and trust between police officers and youths.</p>
<p><b>SWAT for the Day</b></p>	<p>Citizen receives an opportunity to tour the BATT, pose for pictures with the team, try on gear such as vests and helmets, test drive robots, observe the team complete a training exercise, etc.</p>
<p><b>SWAT Touch a Truck</b></p>	<p>In conjunction with the other department/city events, citizens get an opportunity to learn about the BATT, tour the inside of the vehicle, and ask questions.</p>
<p><b>Teen Distracted Driving &amp; Safety Programs</b></p>	<p>This presentation is offered to teenage drivers and their parents or guardians. New drivers may lack the experience that is needed in many driving scenarios and officers will cover topics such as teen driver risks, how to prepare for an emergency situation, the dangers of distracted driving, seatbelt use, and the differences between adult and teenage licenses.</p>
<p><b>Elgin Teen Life</b></p>	<p>Officers assigned to the role of school resource officer encounter many situations involving the students and often counsel students on a case by case basis. Based on the needs of the school and students, SRO implement mentoring programs to help students navigate through various difficult circumstances.</p>
<p><b>Tours of the Police Department</b></p>	<p>Throughout the tour, visitors can expect to meet a police officer; view a squad car; visit the range where officers practice their weaponry skills; see a juvenile holding cell; and, the observe the Emergency Communications Center. Although the Holding Facility is slated to be a part of the tour, its availability is dependent upon activity, as jailers may be busy processing detainees.</p>

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<b>Use of Force Presentations</b>	Provides an overview of Use of Force topics which may include UOF scenarios, types of force used by officers, factors leading to the UOF and options available to officers, the use of force continuum, etc.
<b>We Can Help</b>	Elgin residents who request help with their addition to opiates have the opportunity to be screened for this program, and get into treatment. Officers will work with providers to get them the help they are seeking due to their addition to opiates.
<b>Woman's Self Defense</b>	The goal of this class is to teach women realistic self-defense skills. It also includes practical application exercises on tactics, physical tools, and techniques. This free class will be taught by Elgin police officers and staff.
<b>Alice Training</b>	Provides Elgin area businesses with an overview of active shooter situations, indicators of internal issues that could rise to the level of something more serious, bomb threats, suspicious packages, etc.