

[http://www.galvnews.com/news/article\\_e71c0c5a-9fe3-5eb8-9cd4-8609ff9ca5c7.html](http://www.galvnews.com/news/article_e71c0c5a-9fe3-5eb8-9cd4-8609ff9ca5c7.html)

## Sergeants academy trains 37 new supervisors

By VALERIE WELLS The Daily News 16 hrs ago



Richard Holden, a scholar-in-residence with the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration and a professor at the University of North Texas, talks about critical thinking Monday, Sept. 25, 2017, during a Texas Sergeants Academy session at the League City Police Department.

JENNIFER REYNOLDS/The Daily News

### LEAGUE CITY

Even as law enforcement officers rescued residents from floodwaters, Hurricane Harvey was disrupting their lives as well. The homes of 12 League City police officers flooded at the end of August, officials said.

After Harvey, the League City Police Department scheduled a Texas Sergeants Academy session for its personnel and those from surrounding law enforcement agencies.

“It was one of the things we did to bring a sense of normalcy back,” police spokesman Kelly Williamson said. “But that’s just one reason.”

The main reason for the academy is to train professional leaders in the law enforcement field. The Institute for Law Enforcement Administration and the Texas Municipal League Risk Pool are offering the two-week academy that continues through Friday. Thirty-seven new law enforcement supervisors from several agencies attended and will graduate Friday.

The institute teaches the academy session, which began Sept. 18 at the League City Police Department headquarters.

“Everyone assumes the police chief runs the law enforcement organization,” instructor Richard Holden said. “It’s the supervisors.”

The academy teaches the legal role of new supervisors, he said.

Holden is scholar-in-residence with the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration and a professor at the University of North Texas at Dallas. He taught classes Monday on critical thinking and having “fierce conversations.”

Other sessions covered how to motivate and counsel employees, learning U.S. Army leadership principles, media relations and case law updates. Many of the sessions were similar to other management training topics, such as sexual harassment, risk management, ethics and diversity.

This is only the second time the institute has held the academy, Holden said.

Sgt. Mickey Johnson is a new supervisor in the League City Police Department and is attending the academy. He was promoted to sergeant six months ago.

Johnson supervises 12 officers on a patrol shift that covers the east side of League City, he said.

He has been a law enforcement officer for 27 years, and for six of those years, he has worked for the League City police.

“It’s the next step,” Johnson said. “It is a good baseline on how to be a good supervisor and how to communicate with your employees and your supervisors.”

Valerie Wells: 409-683-5246; [valerie.wells@galvnews.com](mailto:valerie.wells@galvnews.com)

---

### If You Go

What: Texas Sergeants Academy graduation

When: 11 a.m. Friday

Where: South Shore Harbour Resort & Hotel, 2500 South Shore Blvd., League City

“Everyone assumes the police chief runs the law enforcement organization. It’s the supervisors.”  
Richard Holden, Institute for Law Enforcement Administration scholar in residence

Valerie Wells