



Office of the Washington County Sheriff

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington County Sheriff's Office to Host 50th D.A.R.E. Class

Stillwater, MN—The Washington County Sheriff's Office is proud to host the 50th Minnesota D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) class on Monday at the Washington County Government Center in Stillwater.

Serving young people and their families, D.A.R.E. is a prevention and education program that advocates for safe, healthy children through education. D.A.R.E. teaches skills to make positive decisions, provides education on safe and healthy lifestyles, and gives the tools to resist engaging in negative and violent behaviors. The program is tailored to be adaptable by eliciting input of the school staff and families to serve each neighborhood's unique cultural and socio-economical dynamics.

D.A.R.E. continues to be the largest community-policing program in the state of Minnesota, reaching over 60,000 students annually through 230 specially trained officers. These officers teach in the classrooms and form meaningful relationships with children and their families. The 50th D.A.R.E. class in Stillwater will welcome 16 law enforcement candidates from throughout the state, including two Washington County Deputies. These law enforcement officers will participate in an intensive two-week program under the direction of D.A.R.E. America, training in pre-k through high school programming in addition to enhancement lessons addressing vaping, opiates, and other drugs, suicide prevention, bullying/cyberbullying, gangs and violence, role models, and the soon-to-be-released social media lesson.

After a pause in training due to COVID-19, the Washington County Sheriff's Office will host one of two classes offered by Minnesota D.A.R.E. this year. A second officer training class will be held in July.

For more information on Minnesota D.A.R.E., contact MNDARE@aol.com or go to www.mndare.org.

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