



Abilene Police Department

News Release

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Abilene Police Department's 53rd Graduating Class

ABILENE, TX – The Abilene Police Department is proud to announce the graduation of Academy Class 53. Fifteen police cadets will graduate April 4, 2016. The ceremony will be held at the Abilene Civic Center at 6:30 p.m. with a reception to follow.

The cadets have completed 974 hours of training in 26 weeks of intensive academic, physical and mentally challenging training. Class 53 consists of thirteen males and two females who will become Police Officers. All of the trainees have taken and passed their Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) final examination. The police cadets will enter their next phase of training with Police Training Officers while working the streets of Abilene. Field training consists of four phases and will take 14 weeks to complete.

The cadet's ages range from 22 to 39 years of age. Twelve of the cadets have 4-year degrees and one has an Associate's Degree. Eight of the cadets are from the Big Country.

Each cadet will be sworn in as a licensed peace officer and have their badges pinned during the ceremony. The keynote speaker for the event is Lieutenant Chief Kenny Merchant, TCOLE, and also a retired Abilene Assistant Police Chief. This ceremony is open to the public and it is our privilege to honor these men and women as they begin their careers as professional peace officers.

[www.abilene
police.org](http://www.abilene
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Abilene Police
Department

"You are the
first line of
defense
against crime"

Stan Standridge, Chief of Police | 450 Pecan | Abilene, TX | 79602

"We work together to build a community of the highest quality for present and future generations"