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PRESS RELEASE

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Fort Worth PD Hosts the National Honor Guard Academy Training

FORT WORTH, Texas- The Fort Worth Police Department, in partnership with The National Honor Guard Academy, is hosting a week-long program on February 19-23, 2024. More than 40 members from Law Enforcement, Fire, and EMS Agencies from across the country are at the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex for a one-of-a-kind national forum and unique training that will provide instruction in proper drilling movement and techniques, leadership enhancement, and team confidence building during the 40+ hour training event.

All media members are invited at any time to observe both the classroom and hands-on training. Please get in touch with Fort Worth Police Sgt. Jason Ricks at Jason.Ricks@fortworthtexas.gov for each day's specific schedule so that you can time your visit for maximum advantage. Select pictures from day 1 of training are available using the media portal.

The curriculum is designed to cover all aspects of honor guard team development and functions including basic drill and ceremony, church and casket protocols, flag etiquette, history and traditions, and overall funeral planning. The instruction culminates with the students planning and executing a complete mock funeral this coming Thursday. Of note, the training will take place mostly at Bob Bolen (505 W. Felix St., Fort Worth, 76115) but will move off-campus on February 22nd for the mock funeral event. There will also be a short graduation ceremony on Friday, February 23 at 1:00 p.m. with Fort Worth Police Department Line of Duty Death Survivor Teresa Nava-Salazar as the keynote speaker. Her husband, Fort Worth Police Officer Henry "Hank" Nava, Jr. was shot and killed in the line of duty on Dec. 1, 2005, while serving an arrest warrant. He was 39 years old, and a father of two.

This full-week course is designed to teach fire service and public safety organizations how to develop and enhance their organization's honor and color guard unit skills. The focus of the training deals with managing the traditions, protocols, and planning to be utilized should an agency suffer an unfortunate line-of-duty death of one of its personnel.

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The National Honor Guard Academy was established in 2006 to develop and elevate the ceremonial knowledge of public safety honor guards. Focusing on the founding principles of honor, dignity, and respect, the Academy Staff shares a passion for the traditions of emergency service and patriotic pride. Learn more about it at www.nationalhonorguardacademy.com.

