

*The following letter was judged to be the winner of the Boston Police Jr. Police Academy Essay contest, in celebration of the Jr. Police Academy's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary .*

Onyx-White

I learned at the police academy not an average Joe can fit in a police man's shoes. Most people think all police just carry guns and badges but that's not the case, they protect and serve the innocent and also help the needy. They keep the drugs off the street so kids can grow up in safe places. They help keep kids in boys and girls clubs, basketball, football, baseball, and soccer so they will not end up on the street. They don't only make safe havens for kids but for grown ups too. They help grown ups with food, shelter, and medicine, and furniture. The police also put their lives at danger, for example if a hostile situation happened they would have to try and calm the person down. Some people say, "Well they got paid to do this," but your life is priceless. Sometimes they're required to stay away from their wives, husbands, daughters, and sons just to do their job. Being a police officer isn't only about getting the bad guy, its about making people feel good.

I strongly believe a lot of neighborhoods in Boston should have this program. We went to the Suffolk County Jail for a field trip, and I learned from their mistakes. This program is a good role model for kids of all ages, and it also teaches adults. I would highly recommend this to all my friends and family.

What is an average day of a police officer on a bad day I ask. People die, get shot, or sometimes run away from a cop. Now on a good day the person agrees with the officer, and there is no violence.

This program helps young people who want to be a cop in the future. My plan is to learn as much as possible because Boston needs more cops in the community, and less guns, drugs, fights, rapists, and robbers. Taxes would go down because if we get kids in programs and not the streets we would have taxes to feed a lot of prisoners. Or if no prisoners, and no food needed no money for that. No car robbers, then taxes would go down because of the insurance bills.

If someone listens to this it would make a huge difference in Boston and maybe in other cities, states or countries also.

To ME police means:

P- to protect and serve

O- is to observe

L- listen

I - is to isolate your mind

C- is to help the community

E- to keep the environment safe

The End - By: Onyx-White