

*December 6th, 2002*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WILLIAM REHM  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY POLICE  
(914) 864-7858**

### **POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATES 114th CLASS**

Graduation exercises were held today for the 114th session of the Basic Police Recruit School of the Westchester County Police Training Academy. The ceremony, held on the grounds of the SUNY at Purchase, was presided over by Commissioner Louis S. D'Aliso of the Westchester County Department of Public Safety, who gave the keynote address, and featured remarks by Chief David Hall of the Town of Harrison Police Department on behalf of the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association, and Police Officer Mauricio Gomez, of the Department of Public Safety who delivered the Farewell to Graduates.

The newly commissioned officers, 41 in all, represent various police departments throughout Westchester County, in addition to the Office of the New York City District Attorney, and the Kings Point Police. The recruits have completed 18 weeks of intense physical and classroom training in such topics as New York State Law, defensive tactics and firearms training. The curriculum, administered in conjunction with Westchester Community College, is held at the Training Academy in Valhalla, under the direction of Lt. Kevin Reeves of the Department of Public Safety. Police Officers Daniel Langford and Anthony Sciacca of the Department of Public Safety, and Anthony Mercurio, of the Mount Vernon Police Department and James Youket of the City of Yonkers Police Department served as class monitors for the 114th Session, handling many of the administrative duties of training oversight, along with other members of the Academy staff, who were recognized during D'Aliso's remarks.

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In his address, Commissioner D'Aliso encouraged the recruit officers "to be the best you can possibly be," and "to be fair, be strong and be courageous in the pursuit of justice."

During the ceremony, several special awards were given to officers who excelled throughout their training. The awards, awards sponsors and recipients are as follows:

**DEFENSIVE TACTICS**, Sponsored by Consolidated Edison:

*Police Officer Clarence Scriven  
Yonkers Police Department*

**FIREARMS**, Sponsored by New York State Fraternal Order of Police:

*Police Officer Michael Brancamp  
Department of Public Safety*

**ESPRIT DE CORPS**, Sponsored by the Westchester County Department of Public Safety PBA:

*Police Officer Jeff D'Agostinis  
Sleepy Hollow Police Department*

**HIGHEST ACADEMIC AVERAGE**, Sponsored by The Journal News:

*Police Officer Joseph Starace  
Mount Vernon Police Department*

**ALL-AROUND BEST RECRUIT**, Sponsored by the Westchester County Detectives Association

*Police Officer Peter Scully  
Yonkers Police Department*

**ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS AWARD**, Sponsored by the New York State Police Chief's Benevolent Association:

*Investigator Frank Pappalardi  
New York City District Attorney's Office*

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