



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** January 22, 2018

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### **Burlington Fire Department Announces 2018 Fire Citizens Academy**

**Burlington, NC** – The Burlington Fire Department is pleased to announce its 2018 Citizens Fire Academy. The Citizens Fire Academy is designed to increase the community’s understanding and awareness of the Burlington Fire Department. The Academy, offered at no cost to interested individuals, is structured to include seven weeknight courses from 6:00-9:00pm over a two month period. One Saturday class will be conducted at the Police/Fire Training Center in Haw River. A graduation ceremony will be held at the culmination of the Academy.

During the Academy, citizens will be exposed to diverse aspects of the fire service as well as the day-to-day operations of the Burlington Fire Department. Some topics and activities that participants will experience include: station tours, history of fire service and the life of a firefighter, fire prevention, arson information, driving, vehicle extrication, thermal imaging, fire suppressing, training, hose operation, ladder truck riding, smoke shack experience, and more. Check out this [recap video](#) from a recent Citizens Fire Academy session.

“If you have ever wanted to experience the fire service first-hand, this academy is for you,” says Jay Mebane, Interim Fire Marshal and program coordinator. “Burlington firefighters will teach participants everything from how to slide a fire pole, to how to drive a fire truck and everything in between. This is an unforgettable experience for our participants.”

The next session of the Burlington Citizens Fire Academy will be held from April 5 through May 17, 2018. Interested individuals must be over 18 years old, must be willing to attend at least one 3 hour course per week for seven weeks, and have no prior felony convictions or misdemeanors that would question the applicant’s moral character.

Applications will be accepted by email to [jmebane@BurlingtonNC.gov](mailto:jmebane@BurlingtonNC.gov), by mail to P.O. Box 1358, Burlington, NC 27216, attention: Jay Mebane, Citizens Fire Academy, or in person at the Head Quarters Fire Station at 215 South Church Street in downtown Burlington. More information about the Academy may be obtained by contacting Interim Fire Marshal, Jay Mebane at (336) 266-0410 or by visiting [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/BFDCitizensAcademy](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/BFDCitizensAcademy). Follow [this link](#) to fill out an application online.

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“The City of Burlington is dedicated to providing high quality municipal services within our diverse community in a friendly, professional and efficient manner in order to promote the safety, health, and quality of life of residents and employees.”

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