



DETROIT METRO • WILLOW RUN
WAYNE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

L.C. Smith Terminal • Mezzanine
Detroit, MI 48242
ph 734 942 3550
fax 734 942 3793
www.metroairport.com

News Release

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Contact: Scott Wintner (734) 955-3745

Airport Authority Police Leader Completes Elite FBI National Academy Training at Quantico

Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) Deputy Police Chief Jennifer Williams has been honored by the WCAA Board and CEO Lester Robinson for successful completion of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Academy Training Program at the agency's facility in Quantico, Virginia.

“Deputy Chief Williams is a highly-respected leader. Her commitment to the safety and security of our airports, passengers and employees is unwavering,” said Robinson, as he acknowledged Williams before the WCAA Board. “It is no surprise that she would be selected for this elite training program, and we are tremendously proud of her for her accomplishment.”

Established in 1935, the FBI National Academy is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement leaders that serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies at home and abroad and to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge, and cooperation worldwide.

For 10 weeks, Williams and her fellow academy participants took college-level courses in the areas of law, behavioral and forensic science, counterterrorism, leadership development and communication. The program also included progressively rigorous physical training four days each week leading-up to completion of a 6.1 mile Marine Corps obstacle course.

“The experience was a totally different than I ever could have imagined—once in a lifetime,” said Williams. “The classes and instructors were awesome—overall it was quite an experience!”

Williams also participated in a wide range of leadership and specialized training, where she had the chance to share ideas, techniques, and experiences with members of her class.

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“There were 250 students and of that 23 were international students,” Williams added. “I learned a little bit from each one of them. The academy gave our class an overall closeness with the people that you attend with, because after all you’re together for 10 weeks and you only have each other to depend on. I missed my family and home, but for the time we were together our Academy class became a new family and a new home.”

Participation in the Academy is by invitation only following a rigorous nomination process. Williams became one of 42,459 Academy graduates--and one of only 1,565 female graduates--in the program’s 74-year history. She is only the third Airport Authority Public Safety team member to graduate from the elite program.

Williams began her career in law enforcement at the Wayne County jails in 1986. Since then, she has earned promotions to various positions within the Wayne County Sherriff’s Office until joining the Wayne County Airport Authority Police Division upon its establishment as a separate law enforcement entity in 2003.

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