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Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Be on the Lookout • 2016 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference

Flagstaff, Arizona

Blast demo thrills

Sometimes, being a Law Enforcement Explorer, can be a blast as some members from southern posts experienced.

For a week, posts from Alabama, Louisiana, Florida and Georgia received some law enforcement training that added to their potential careers. Hosted by the Alabama Law Enforcement Exploring Academy, the Birmingham, Alabama, event also offered the Explorers an opportunity to build contacts, network and simply enjoy the camaraderie that evolves from those who share similar goals and the benefits are many.

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske visits with explorers after observing individual and special teams competitions Monday, July 11, 2016. Kerlikowske is the Chair of the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee.

Commissioner Kerlikowske offers welcome to explorers

Welcome to Flagstaff. I am proud and honored to serve as Chair to the National Law Enforcement Exploring



Committee. Exploring is a program that I whole heartedly believe in. I have dedicated more than 40 years to public service in law enforcement, and I can tell you that this career path offers you the opportunity to really make a difference in the world around you. I know this, your law enforcement

advisors know this, and we want you as the next generation of law enforcement to continue to protect and serve the public. But should you choose other career paths, your experience in Exploring will be invaluable.

As Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, I am at the helm of the largest law enforcement agency in the United States and also the largest sponsor of Exploring in the country. Several of our senior leaders started as Explorers and worked their way as officers and agents to become Port Directors and Chiefs. What you are

experiencing now is preparing you for a wide variety of law enforcement careers. I encourage you to explore these options at federal, state, and local levels - each has a unique perspective.

CBP has two primary law enforcement paths: Border Patrol Agent and CBP Officer - both important to our homeland security but incredibly different day to day duties. CBP is currently hiring for agents and officers among other positions, and I encourage you to ask your Advisor about this, or any of our officers and agents who are here this

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High standards set elite BORTAC apart

The Border Patrol Tactical Unit (BORTAC) is an elite unit a part of the U.S. Border Patrol that provides an immediate-response capability to emergent and high-risk incidents requiring specialized skills and tactics. BORTAC has a cadre of full-time team members headquartered in El Paso, Texas, and non-full-time members dispersed throughout the U.S. The unit is unique in that it conducts training and operations both in the United States and in other countries in furtherance of the U.S. Border Patrol's mission.

The BORTAC Selection and Training Course (BSTC) was designed to mirror aspects of the U.S. Special Operations Forces'



Members of the elite BORTAC team rappel with an American flag during the opening ceremony Monday evening. CBP photo by Jerry Glaser

selection courses. The grueling BSTC, which may last over a month, begins with a physical testing involving push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups, a 1.5 mile run and a pistol qualification. Candidates

who pass the initial testing must then complete a timed, six-mile ruck march with a weighted pack. Additional testing is performed for swimming, treading water, and drown-proofing.

After completing the entire testing phase, candidates undergo weeks of intense training in small unit tactics, operational planning, advanced weapon skills, defensive tactics, and air-mobile operations.

Before graduating and putting the BORTAC wings on their uniforms, candidates must demonstrate the ability to function in a team environment under stress and sleep deprivation conditions. BSTC graduates then will return to their respective sectors and work alongside other operators while learning advanced techniques in weapons and tactics.

For more information, visit www.cbp.gov.

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Explorers attending the Birmingham event trained together in the same fashion as law enforcement agencies across the country regularly train together. Those bonds prove priceless when an incident occurs.

However, the real feature of the training was during an explosives demonstration conducted by The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

Explorers felt the effects of an explosion and learned about post-blast dangers. The video link shows the effects of one of the explosive shots witnessed by the participants and the media.



Law enforcement explorers receive instruction on explosive effects.

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week to support this conference and Exploring.

In law enforcement, there really is no such thing as a "typical day." While there are many

challenges in today's law enforcement environment, what hasn't changed is a profound commitment to the safety and the security of the public we serve.

I want to thank you and all

Explorers for your involvement in Exploring and participation in this conference. Your experience in Exploring will benefit all of us as you embark on your journey in law enforcement or in another public service profession, and grow into the kinds of women

and men we all can count on.

Sincerely,
R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Seminar-packed week ahead

Ocean County, N.J., Undersheriff Brian Klimakowski has taken the helm of seminars for this year's Exploring Conference. With more than 30 years in law enforcement including serving as a Police Chief and Director of Public Safety, Undersheriff Klimakowski currently serves as the Director of the Ocean County, New Jersey Police Academy.



By Brian Klimakowski

I can tell you from experience that by choosing a career in law enforcement, you will choose a career that matters, and one that really makes a difference. You will hear over and over that there is no such thing as a "typical day" in law enforcement. And it is because of this that your training now and throughout your career will be so important. Training will aide you in your decision making process, from decisions that will grow to be instinctual for you, to decisions that will require more thought.

This week, you will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of seminars. We've

brought in experts from across federal, state, and local law enforcement to teach these seminars and your seminar instructors will offer you insights that will help you think deeper about topics. These topics are current, and I encourage you to engage in conversation with your instructors so that you can get the most out of this educational experience. The seminars offered to you this week are:

- Active Shooter Response: Law enforcement's evolution
- America's Frontline: U.S. Customs and Border Protection's role in protecting our borders
- Below 100: Reducing line of duty deaths in law enforcement
- Delivering Justice: Cases of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service
- Digital Evidence: The impact of social media in criminal investigations
- Drug Trafficking: from the poppy fields to the streets of the U.S.
- Fugitive Apprehension: The US Marshals

role in tracking America's most wanted

- Fundamentals of Leadership

- Protect Yourself: Self-Defense Techniques
- Transnational Policing from an Australian Federal Police perspective
- Use of Force: Examining law enforcement's less lethal options
- Vehicle Inspections: Detecting and disrupting transnational criminal organizations and smuggling

On Wednesday, you will have the opportunity to take part in a special seminar to focus on Policing in Today's Law Enforcement Environment. Police Chief Sean Duggan from Chandler, Arizona will lead this discussion along with officials from the Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Office and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Enjoy your time here this week and remember, the skills you are starting to learn now will be invaluable to you as you continue your path towards a career in law enforcement.

A welcome message from youth reps

Explorers received a warm welcome from this year's leaders—Cindy Garcia, the national youth representative for law enforcement and Sabrina Capriotti, the vice national youth representative for law enforcement. They offered these remarks in greeting conference participants.

Explorers, advisors, volunteers and guests: It's pleasure to help officially open the 2016 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference. We would like to welcome you all and thank all of those who were involved in the organization of this event. It's truly exciting to see such a distinguished crowd of explorers and advisors sitting before us in the audience today eager to



Sabrina Capriotti, left, of the post sponsored by the Howell Township, N.J., Police Dept., is the vice national youth representative for law enforcement exploring and Cindy Garcia, right, of the post sponsored by the Chicago U.S. Customs and Border Protection, is the national youth representative for law enforcement exploring.

participate in such an incredible program.

This week, we promise will be

one you will never forget. The lessons, friends, and memories you gain will be forever a reminder of your time with ex-

ploring and at the 2016 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference. And finally, to the explorers, we now speak directly to you.

You have come from places near and far. You have traveled by planes, cars, and trains alike. You have come to Flagstaff, Arizona, ready to befriend one another, compete against one another and learn from one another. As you carry yourself on this week's adventure, remember to find a moment to smile, to make a new friend, to learn something you never thought possible and most of all, take the time to enjoy the incredible possibilities that law enforcement exploring has brought before you this week. Thank you.

Conference scenes



Keeping the 2016 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference very visible is a team effort. This year's conference public affairs team came together from a variety of law enforcement and handle everything from the BOLO newsletter to media outreach.