

NEWSRELEASE

Pinal County Sheriff's Office • 971 Jason Lopez Circle
Florence, Arizona 85132 • 520-866-5174 • Fax: 520-866-5195



Paul Babeu, Sheriff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Media Relations, Tim Gaffney, 520-705-8124

Citizens on Patrol in Arizona City

The Pinal County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce that the Citizens on Patrol (COP) Program has expanded into Arizona City. The Arizona City COP Unit now has their own Patrol vehicle, with 17 active COP volunteers patrolling the streets and neighborhoods of Arizona City, acting as the "eyes and ears" for the Pinal County Sheriff's Office.

On September 26, 2010 COP Program Director, Pat Prince, along with COP volunteers from San Tan Valley and Gold Canyon conducted an informational meeting for residents of Arizona City; more than 100 concerned citizens attended the informational meeting. As a result of that meeting, Sheriff Paul Babeu authorized the creation of the Arizona City Citizens on Patrol Unit, and he requested that it be a priority to get this unit operational. A group of volunteers have successfully completed the COP Academy which includes a classroom training session covering policies and procedures for both PCSO and COP, along with observation and perception training, radio communication, and basic hand signals for traffic control. Volunteers also attended Tactical Driver Training at the CAC Driving Track in Coolidge. Volunteers are scheduled to attend CPR/First Aid training in January and February of this year. Additional volunteer recruits are scheduled for classroom training on January 24th in San Tan Valley.

Program Director, Pat Prince, coordinated training patrols in Arizona City with the aid of volunteers from San Tan Valley and Gold Canyon; as many as five vehicles patrolled the AZ City area with volunteer trainees for "on the job" training. This program being operational within sixty days would not have been possible without the support, assistance, and direction of Lieutenant Ruben Leos, Region Commander, the Arizona City Fire Department, COP Volunteers from all units, and Chuck Borozinski, Arizona City Acting Program Manager.

The primary mission for Pinal Citizens on Patrol is to serve as the "eyes and ears" for the Pinal County Sheriff's Office. This visible presence has been a proven as an effective method for both deterring and detecting criminal activity.

If you are interested in becoming part of the solution to preventing crime in your community, please contact the COP Program Director, Pat Prince at (480)671-4847, or email at patprince6064@msn.com. You may also contact the Arizona City COP Acting Program Manager, Chuck Borozinski at (520)466-2060 or email at chboro@msn.com.

Applicants must possess a valid Arizona Drivers License, be 21 years of age, and pass a background investigation. Applicants must attend and successfully complete the COP Academy. We are currently accepting new applications for Citizens On Patrol in Arizona City, Gold Canyon and San Tan Valley.