

City of Bristol Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, February 13, 2012

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Bristol Fire Department's **Citizens Fire Academy Applications Now Available**

The Bristol Tennessee Fire Department is accepting applications for its Citizens Fire Academy which will begin on April 19th, 2012. The enrollment period will extend from February 6th through March 11th for interested Bristol, Tennessee residents aged 18 years and older. The academy is limited to ten participants, so early applications are encouraged.

The Citizens Fire Academy is a public education based program offering attendees the opportunity to learn firefighting skills in a controlled environment. Students will be exposed to the myriad facets of being a firefighter and they will participate in a program of instruction that focuses on fire/life safety and fire prevention. "The Citizens Academy does not present a curriculum designed to prepare participants for a career as a firefighter, but extends a fire service knowledge base by way of classroom instruction and practical exercises; all instruction is presented by professional Bristol Tennessee firefighters," said Assistant Fire Chief Jack Spurgeon, the academy's coordinator.

The program will enhance a participant's understanding of the department's capabilities and limitations, and foster a meaningful, cooperative relationship between firefighters and the citizens of Bristol. The six week program will introduce the participants to the history of the fire service; safety topics; firefighting skills, tactics, and strategy; basic first aid and CPR; and provide insight to the Bristol Tennessee Fire Department's all-hazard approach to emergency preparation and mitigation.

The class begins on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. and will continue for six successive Thursdays. For additional information, or to request a copy of the application, please contact the Bristol Fire Department at 423-989-5701. Applications also may be downloaded at www.bristoltn.org.

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