

GRADUATE PROFILE

DEPUTY CONSTABLE AUSTIN WILLIAMS
JOHNSON COUNTY CONSTABLE'S OFFICE
PRECINCT 1, TEXAS



Austin Williams has been a deputy with the Johnson County Constable's Office Precinct 1 since 2014. While employed with his office, he completed his bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration with a minor in psychology, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in public administration at Tarleton State University in Fort Worth, Texas. Deputy Constable Williams holds the following certifications from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement: intermediate peace officer, field training officer, mental health officer, and sexual assault/family violence investigator. He is also a graduate of FBI LEEDA's Trilogy.

Q: YOU CURRENTLY HOLD THE POSITION OF DEPUTY CONSTABLE WITH THE JOHNSON COUNTY CONSTABLE'S OFFICE FOR PRECINCT 1 IN JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS. HOW DO YOU ENVISION THE KNOWLEDGE FROM THE "DEVELOPING LEADER" COURSE OF THE NATIONAL COMMAND & STAFF COLLEGE GAINED BENEFITING YOU IN THAT ROLE?

A: As a peace officers, we are undoubtedly public leaders. The National Command & Staff College's Developing Leaders program equips officers of all ranks to become better leaders in their communities, both on and off duty. Leadership is a journey, and I will continue honing the skills I learned throughout this program and implementing them in my profession and in my personal life.

Q: YOU HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE IN SEVERAL SPECIALIZED ASSIGNMENTS AND WORK FOR A VARIETY OF LEADERS. WHAT CONSISTENT TRAITS DO YOU SEE IN GOOD LEADERS?

A: I have been in law enforcement for a relatively short amount of time, but in that timeframe, I have been witness to many different leadership styles portrayed by administrators in various agencies. Additionally, as the Command College states, every officer is a leader. True leaders—the really good leaders—care about their people. They are supportive of their people in every capacity. It wouldn't surprise you when one of the good leaders invites you to lunch or brings you coffee in the morning.

Q: AS PART OF THE NATIONAL COMMAND & STAFF COLLEGE PROGRAM, YOU WERE ASKED TO COMPLETE A TOTAL OF 46 ON-LINE MODULES WITH A FOLLOW-UP COMPREHENSIVE ESSAY EXAM. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR AFFECTIVE AND COGNITIVE EXPERIENCE AND LEARNING.

A: Listening to lectures in school requires undivided attention and perhaps even some note taking. The National Command & Staff College was no different. The modules were informative, and were broken up in such a way that you were not bogged down with information overload. The information and skills I learned during the five-week program has and will continue to change my outlook on public service.

Q: WHAT FEEDBACK WOULD YOU GIVE OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CORRECTIONS DEPUTIES WHO ARE CONSIDERING ENROLLING IN THE “DEVELOPING LEADER” COURSE OF THE NATIONAL COMMAND & STAFF COLLEGE?

A: Do it. I have heard on more than one occasion from law enforcement leaders that they wished they had begun leadership training earlier in their careers. Accordingly, I have started taking leadership trainings early in my career, most recently the National Command & Staff College. I think beginning your career with a steadfast leadership foundation is one of the best investments up and coming officers can make into their careers. However, make no mistake. The Developing Leaders program is for officers of all ranks, and would be beneficial at any point in one’s career.



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