

September 9, 2015

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They're back! Save the date, enjoy a burger and fries, and support your local police department. How does dinner out support the police department? Burleson's men and women in blue – our police officers – will be working the tables for tips and grins to raise money for the Burleson Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (BCPAAA).

It's called Tip-A-Cop. Make plans to stop by Grumps of Burleson on Monday, Sept. 21, 5 p.m.-9 p.m. All of the tips and a portion of Grump's nightly proceeds will go to the BCPAAA and their initiatives. None of the tips or proceeds goes to the officers.

Burleson police officers will be serving you your choice of a hamburger or cheeseburger, fries or home-fried chips, and soda/tea or water, all for just \$8. No alcohol will be served or permitted during the Tip-A-Cop event. BCPAA members and Police Explorers will refill your drink and clear the tables.

Last year, the first year for the event, between the tips and a portion of Grump's proceeds from the meals, the BCPAA took in a little over \$2,200. More than half a dozen Burleson Police officers, and the chief, served up humor along with the orders. BCPAAA members and students in the Burleson Police Explorers program welcomed patrons, cleared tables, and filled drinks. See the 2014 pictures, <http://bit.ly/2014TipACop>.

In the past, BCPAAA members have raised funds and provided the Burleson Police Department with pursuit spikes, all the initial uniforms for the Honor Guard (valued at approximately \$3,300), purchased four-six new bikes for the department's bicycle unit (and established a maintenance fund for the bikes), and helped raise funds for equipment for the Citizens On Patrol members. After the 2014 Tip-A-Cop, the BCPAA purchased a camera for crash investigators, and then combined the remainder of what was raised with funds raised earlier this year to purchase a car booster seat, a new bicycle, medication drop box, and a video camera for criminal investigations.

The BCPAAA is a 501©(3) organization. Members of the BCPAAA are graduates of the Burleson Police Department's Citizens Police Academy. As students, they participated in a free 10-week program in which they learned about the department's organization, recruiting process, Texas Penal Code, criminal investigations, search and seizure, building searches, traffic law enforcement, narcotics investigation, SWAT, patrol procedures, and even solved a homicide scenario by identifying evidence, using investigative techniques, and interviewing witnesses. The free academy is offered every summer, June-August.

Grumps is located at 108 S. Main St. in Burleson's Old Town.