



Putnam County Justice Center
421 East Spring Street • Cookeville, TN 38501
Phone: 931.528.8484 • Fax: 931.528.7043

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sergeant Roger Cooper Graduates from TBI Academy

PUTNAM COUNTY, TN – The Putnam County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce that Sergeant Roger Cooper, a detective in the Criminal Investigations Division, recently graduated in Class #5 of the TBI Academy in Bell Buckle, TN. The 6-week program is an abbreviated version of TBI's agent training with an intensive focus on crime scene investigation along with leadership training and lot of hands-on experience. Tennessee is the only state in the country that offers this type of elite academy at the state level.

"I am proud of Roger for being selected as one of only 12 students statewide," said Sheriff Eddie Farris. "It is an honor for him and for our Department. His commitment and dedication to education and furthering his professional credentials are the hallmark of what our agency stands for."

During the 6-week Academy, Cooper received training at both TBI Headquarters and the THP Academy which included university level academic classroom training as well as rigorous physical conditioning. The curriculum included a set program with a wide range of topics, such as Human Trafficking, Statement and Analysis, Crime Scene Photography, Forensic Anthropology, Crime Scene Investigation, Undercover Operations, and Active Shooter. The physical training was tough and competitive with required testing held before graduation. In addition to all of the hard work, attendees were taken on field trips during their stay, including two days at the University of Tennessee in Dr. Bass' Department of Forensic Anthropology and the Body Farm.

"It was a once in a lifetime experience," commented Cooper. "It really gives you a different perspective on how you look at crimes. You learn from how other agencies do things and make lifelong contacts that benefit you and your agency."

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Media contact:

Beth Nelson, PIO

sheriffpio@putnamcountyttn.gov

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