

National Office: FBI Academy, Bldg. 8-102 Quantico, VA 22135 PH: 703.632.1990 Fax: 703.632.1940

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 5, 2025

Local Law Enforcement Officer Graduates from FBI National Academy

DeKalb, Illinois - On June 5th, the DeKalb Police Department announced that Commander Keith Ehrke has graduated as a member of the 294th session of the FBI National Academy. The graduation took place at the National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, on June 5th, 2025. Commander Keith Ehrke is the ninth officer in department history to complete this prestigious program. Nationally, fewer than one percent of officers have the opportunity to attend the program.

Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy offers 10 weeks of advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training. Participants must have proven records as professionals within their agencies to attend. On average, these officers have 21 years of law enforcement experience and usually return to their agencies to serve in executive-level positions.

The 294th session consisted of 239 law enforcement officers who graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. The 294th session of the National Academy consisted of men and women from 48 states and the District of Columbia. The class also included members of law enforcement agencies from 14 foreign countries, six military organizations, and four federal civilian organizations.

Commander Keith Ehrke brings 23 years of law enforcement experience to his current role. He began his career with the Cook County Sheriff's Department before joining the DeKalb Police Department in 2005, where he has served in a variety of roles. Starting as a Patrol Officer, he went on to serve in the Gang Unit and as a Detective. He was later promoted to Patrol Sergeant, Targeted Response Unit Sergeant, and Detective Sergeant. Most recently, he was promoted to Investigations Commander and also serves as Co-Commander of the DeKalb County Major Case Squad. He has consistently exhibited a superior work ethic throughout his career, and his passion for solving crimes and bringing offenders to justice is clearly evident. He is a mentor and role model for many officers, and his devotion to duty and commitment to the City of DeKalb are hallmarks of his character.



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DeKalb Police Chief David Byrd praised Commander Ehrke's service and leadership, stating:

The DeKalb Police Department are extremely proud of Commander Ehrke, as he successfully completed the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy Class. Commander Ehrke is a man of strong faith, and he has displayed amazing leadership for the DeKalb Police Department. I don't know if I have met someone with stronger integrity and a sense of professionalism than Commander Ehrke. As the Commander of the DeKalb Police Department Investigations Division, his ability to lead from the front has made a positive impact; not just on the investigative division, but the impact is felt and percolates throughout the department. I can't express how proud I am of Commander Ehrke, he is an outstanding police officer, leader, and friend, and the City of DeKalb should feel a sense of honor to have such an amazing person protecting and serving them.

DeKalb Police Department

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About the FBI National Academy

FBI Academy instructors, special agents, and other staff with advanced degrees provide the training; many instructors are recognized internationally in their fields. Since 1972, National Academy students have been able to earn undergraduate and graduate credits from the University of Virginia, which accredits many of the courses offered. A total of 56,180 graduates have completed the FBI National Academy since it began in 1935. The National Academy is held at the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, the same facility where the FBI trains its new special agents and intelligence analysts.



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