



## Explorers Put Strecker on Path to Law Enforcement Career

My name is Logan Strecker. I began my career in law enforcement as a deputy sheriff at the Osceola County Sheriff's Office and I owe it all to the Sheriff's Office Explorer Program.

When I was 15 years old a very close family friend of mine was discussing my future when he asked, "What do you like to do?" I thought about it and told him I liked helping people. At the time, this friend was in charge of the Osceola County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 816. He convinced me to attend a meeting to see if it would be something I would enjoy.

After my first meeting, my interest was piqued. There was a group of about 20 teenagers that attended and we learned how to search buildings for suspects. My life changed this day. I desired to learn more and more about law enforcement. From 2012 to 2016, I was trained in the basics of law enforcement such as: how to conduct a proper traffic stop, how to handle domestic violence scenarios, how to properly handle a firearm and effectively shoot in competition, and we studied the elements required in criminal offenses based on Florida state statutes.

During my time as an Explorer, I was privileged to be selected by my advisor to attend competitions hosted by the Florida Sheriff's Explorer



Association all over the state. Explorers are given the opportunity to put what they have learned into practice by competing against other Explorer posts from around the state.

The structured and positive environment of the Explorer program molded me into the confident, community-oriented person I am today. The Explorer program was not only an educational program



about law enforcement, it was an opportunity to surround myself with like-minded individuals my age. I created lifelong friends and acquaintances as well as learned the values of responsibility, respect, discipline and leadership skills. I held onto these values into my personal and professional life, and they have made me a very successful person.

I was honored to receive a full sponsorship to the police academy. I graduated at the top of my class. I went on to excel in the field as a patrol deputy making arrests and assisting the public. I have been a patrol deputy for almost four years now. I am a field-training officer teaching new recruits how to be a patrol deputy, and I am a member of the Sheriff's Office SWAT Team. I give the Explorer program and all of my advisers and mentors credit for keeping me focused on my goals and teaching me these lessons. I truly do not know where I would be in my life if it was not for the Explorer program. I often think of all the positive experiences and friendships made.



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