

FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Dallas Baldwin

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Franklin County Sheriff's Office prepares to welcome 38 new deputies

(Grove City, OH) — On Thursday, Nov. 21, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office celebrated the graduation of 38 cadets from the Corrections Academy.

Following nine rigorous weeks at the Training Academy, these graduates are now prepared to begin their careers in the Corrections Division, serving at one of the Franklin County Corrections Centers.

Sheriff Dallas Baldwin praised the cadets for their dedication and perseverance.

"Graduation marks not just the end of training but the beginning of a career dedicated to public service," Baldwin said. "These individuals have demonstrated the commitment and professionalism needed to serve our community with integrity."

This graduating class includes seven lateral transfers — sworn officers from other law enforcement agencies — who bring valuable experience to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office.

Instructor Sgt. Dustin Little reflected on the group's journey, highlighting their determination and growth.

"The most rewarding part," Sgt. Little noted, "was seeing some of them take constructive criticism, step up to the plate, and knock it out of the park."

The ceremony, held at the Grove City Church of the Nazarene, featured remarks from class president, Jazmine Matney, described by Sgt. Little as "highly motivated and always in good spirits. She will do great things here."

Chief Deputy Rick Minerd, a 33-year veteran at the Sheriff's Office, also spoke to the group, asking them to reflect on a single question: "What's your story?". Chief Minerd challenged them to think about the legacy they want to leave as they prepare to report for duty on Monday.

"A badge may symbolize authority," Chief Minerd said, "but it's your actions that will define you and what you stand for."



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He urged the graduates to carry themselves in a way that they and their families can be proud of at the end of their careers.

This is the third graduating class of 2024, bringing the total number of new deputies this year to 116. Looking ahead, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office plans to welcome three more cadet classes in 2025, with the first class beginning January 13 and signing day set for January 9.

For pictures of graduation: https://FCSODigitalMedia.pixieset.com/cadetgraduation/