THE CITY OF PORT ANGELES
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PRESS RELEASE

Deputy Chief of Police Graduates from the 269th Session of the FBI National Academy

On September 15, 2017 two hundred and twenty-four law enforcement officers graduated from the FBI National Academy Program at Quantico, Virginia. The 269th session of the FBI National Academy consisted of men and women from 48 states. Included in this class are members of law enforcement agencies from the District of Columbia, 22 international countries, five military organizations, and six federal civilian organizations. Deputy Chief of Police Jason Viada was one of those graduates.

The National Academy program is internationally known for its academic excellence and offers 10 weeks of advance communication, leadership and fitness training for selected law enforcement leaders that have proven records as professionals within their agencies. According to the FBI these officers on average have 21 years of law enforcement experience and usually return to their agencies to serve in leadership or executive-level positions.

FBI Associate Director David Bowdich was the principal speaker at the ceremony. Training for the program is provided by the FBI Academy instructional staff, Special Agents and other staff members holding advanced degrees, many of whom are internationally recognized in their fields of expertise. Since 1972, National Academy students have been able to earn undergraduate and graduate credits through the University of Virginia due to the accreditation by the university of the many courses offered.

The graduating officers were represented by the class spokesperson, Marco Gonzalez, Lieutenant, New York City Police Department, New York, New York. A total of 50,365 graduates now represent the alumni of the FBI National Academy since it began in 1935. In addition to Deputy Chief Viada, the Port Angeles Police Department has three National Academy graduates- Retired Assistant Chief Roy Morgan, Retired Chief Tom

Riepe and Chief Brian Smith.   The yellow brick symbolizes the completion of the "Yellow Brick Road" obstacle course, which is part of the physical training.   Other area law enforcement FBI National Academy graduates include Clallam County Sheriff's Dept. Chief Criminal Deputy Brian King, Clallam County Sheriff's Sgt. Lyman Moores, Sequim Police Chief Sheri Crain and Elwha Police Chief Jeff Gilbert.

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