



ALLECA 2025 FINAL REPORT

DATE: 06-17-2025

TO: American Legion, Department of AZ CMDR. Manny Beltran (Commander@azlegion.org)

American Legion, Department of AZ Adjutant Matthew Kritzer (adjutant@azlegion.org)

Americanism Committee, Chairman Gary A. Vaughan (americanism@azlegion.org)

FROM: Matthew Griffis, ALLECA Director (allegadirector@gmail.com)

The 2025 American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy, ALLECA, was held at the Emmanuel Pines Conference Center located in Prescott, Arizona from June 7th through June 14th, 2025. This was the 44th year for this academy, which started in 1981. ALLECA 2025 hosted 46 cadets from across Arizona, with 22 male cadets and 24 female cadets.

The academy was staffed by 20 well trained law enforcement professionals from the Arizona Department of Public Safety, Phoenix Police Department, Cochise County Sheriff's Office, Sahuarita Police Department, Mesa Police Department, Tucson Police Department, Pinal County Sheriff's Office, Show Low Police Department and AZPOST. Ten past graduates of the ALLECA program were also in attendance and served as Cadet Advisors. Academy Staff included a Board-Certified Nurse Practitioner, who served as Camp Medic, who was busy with administering medical care to cadets and staff every day throughout the week.

Cadets were placed into squads with a designated squad leader, class president, and guide-on, who was tasked with the carrying of the ALLECA class flag from the residence hall to the various locations the class went during the week. Cadets were instructed on the significance and importance of the American flag, drill and marching procedures, honor and respect for staff and each other, teamwork and team building while carrying out the various functions of training and learning.

Cadets were advised to prepare physically for the academy, which included a physical fitness assessment test upon entering the program, daily physical fitness activities, and a final physical fitness test before graduation.

Cadets were responsible for maintaining orderly beds and sleeping rooms, completing many uniform inspections and chores related to keeping the residence hall and classroom facility clean and orderly.

Daily schedules included early morning physical fitness training, the raising and lowering of the American flag, drill and marching, squad meetings with their squad counselors for the conveyance of information, assistance with the shining of boots and how to properly maintain their uniform, classroom instruction on a variety of topics and hands-on exercises, such as weapon handling with air-soft guns and defensive tactics.

Classroom instruction included the following topics: Introduction to First Aid, DUI and the Underage Driver, Citizenship and Americanism, Traffic Stops, the Bomb Squad, a SWAT Unit from the AZ Department of Public

Safety, a presentation on the dangers of distracted driving, Being Bullied, Undercover Investigations and Scenario based training on building entries, Active Shooter and High Risk Vehicle Stops, a shooting competition with air soft weapons, Narcotic Investigations and Defensive Tactics Training. Career-building training was also provided.

Integrity, teamwork, and respect for each other were stressed during each day. The schedule of events ensured the cadets were busy with a variety of different tasks from the start of the day until the end of the day.

The class started with 49 cadets and finished with 46 cadets. One cadet left due to a medical condition, and two others left after discovering the program was not for them.

This weeklong academy culminated in a class graduation on June 14th, 2025, with the presentation of the class to their families and the presentation of certificates of completion. ALLECA 2025 incurred a camp fee of \$38,961.00 and associated camp, cadet, and medical supplies, along with equipment and uniform costs, for a total training cost of \$41,997.76, a decrease of \$10,473.90 from ALLECA 2024.

The guest speakers were:

SONS of The American Legion, National Vice Commander, Midwest Region, Michael D. Monserud (IA)

Arizona Department of Public Safety Major Jennnifer Borquez, Chief of Staff, Arizona Highway Patrol Division.



For God and Country

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Griffis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name.

Respectfully submitted

Matthew Griffis, ALLECA Director