

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **EDA and Warren County Sheriff Announce New Regional Training Academy**

**March 1, 2015, Front Royal, Virginia:** The Economic Development Authority and the Warren County Sheriff announced today that a new regional criminal justice training academy will be built at the Happy Creek Technology Park.

The \$8 million project will be fully funded by a private developer, according to Jennifer McDonald, Executive Director of the Warren County Economic Development Authority.

“We were approached about nine months ago by an investor who was interested in developing a facility that would serve the community,” said McDonald. “We were

aware that Sheriff McEathron was interested in building a local training facility. So, we put the two together – and it has resulted in a great partnership and opportunity for the community.”

The academy will be located on eighteen acres at the end of Progress Drive in the Happy Creek Technology Park, and will be comprised of two components: a 15,300 square foot training academy and a 14,000 square foot indoor firing range. The academy will annually serve about 730 law enforcement and correctional officers from around the region, including Berryville Police Department, Clarke County Sheriff’s Office, Frederick County Public Safety Communication, Frederick County Sheriff’s Office, Front Royal Police Department, Lord Fairfax Community College Police Department, Middletown Police Department, Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center, Rappahannock Shenandoah Warren Regional Jail, Stephens City Police Department, Strasburg Police Department, Warren County Sheriff’s Office, Winchester City Police Department, and Winchester City Sheriff’s Office.

“This is a valuable project and a great opportunity for our region,” said Warren County Sheriff Danny McEathron. “Jennifer told me about the investor; we met a number of times and evaluated several parcels of land. We selected the Happy Creek site primarily for its accessibility. Having a local academy will eliminate the need to travel for training and will bring others into the community who will generate some revenue while here.”

“I’m glad we could put these two entities together,” said McDonald. “While the project does not create many new jobs, it offers an opportunity for an investor to give back to the community and for our law enforcement officers from around the region to train

locally and to spend time in our community. We are very pleased about the project and its positive impact on the community.”

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