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Deputy police chief chosen to attend FBI training program

BY SARAH WOJCIK

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SHELBY TOWNSHIP — On April 4, Shelby Township Deputy Police Chief Mark Coil began the FBI National Academy, a 10-week training program for law enforcement executives around the country and abroad. He is slated to graduate June 10.

Coil will join a class of approximately 220 on a Marine base in Quantico, Virginia, to learn the latest techniques in crime fighting, leadership and administration. The class will be challenged physically too, and will complete a 6-mile obstacle-laden run at the end of the session.

Out of a selection of 40 classes, Coil said he chose classes focused on

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Coil

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police labor law, police operations law, public speaking, media relations and effective writing.

"We have people from Hungary, Brazil, Germany, France, Israel and 47 out of the 50 states represented," Coil said in an April 7 interview. "Week one is coming to a close, and it's been pretty hectic learning a new routine, but it's been an amazing experience so far."

Coil is one of four law enforcement executives from Michigan selected to attend the 264th session of the academy. Four sessions are offered annually.

Shelby Township Police Chief Robert Shelide attended the 253rd session while he was a member of the Southfield Police Department and graduated in April 2013. He said he focused his classes heavily on leadership.

The selection process, he said, is tedious and competitive.

Of the approximately 700,000 law enforcement officers in the U.S., he said approximately 720 attend the FBI National Academy each year.

Shelide said one of the first things he did when he became chief of the Shelby Township Police Department in January 2015 was to work on securing a slot for one of its officers at the FBI National Academy.

Shelide is the only current member of the department to have attended the program. The last time the department sent an officer to the program was in 2009.

He said Coil was the natural choice to attend the FBI National Academy, as he is the second-highest-ranking senior executive in the department. Coil has 25 years of experience.

"It was very close between him and one other lieutenant," Shelide said. "(The academy is) great for networking. You're exposed to different people and their philosophies and ideas. It was an eye-opener for me."

Shelide said that, to this day, he still communicates regularly with three law enforcement execu-

tives he met at the FBI National Academy — one from Grand Rapids, one from Florida and one from California.

He said his graduating class also keeps in contact through a group thread in which members send out information and solicit advice on various topics.

"I'm happy for (Deputy Chief

Coil)," Shelide said. "Less than 1 percent of all officers ever get the chance to attend this very significant and prestigious training. I know he's going to do a great job representing the Police Department and the township when he's there."

In the future, Shelide said, he would like to secure another spot

for another member of the Shelby Township Police Department at the FBI National Academy.

For more information about the FBI National Academy, visit www.fbi.gov/about-us/training/national-academy.

Call Staff Writer Sarah Wojcik at (586) 498-1029.



Coil

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