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MACOMB COUNTY

Deputy chief completes training at the FBI National Academy

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Deputy Chief Mark Coil, a 25-year veteran of the Shelby Township Police Department, graduated on June 10 from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., after completing an intense 10-week training program.

"It was an honor and a privilege to have gone through the training," Coil said. "It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Coil attended the No. 264 session of the training program, which included 213 law enforcement officers from 21 countries, four military organizations and eight federal civilian organizations.

"Mark graduated with distinction, as he was one of only five students who were voted in by fellow classmates as a section leader," Police Chief Robert Shelide said.

According to Shelide, the train-

ing program is for law enforcement executives and features instructions in crime fighting, leadership and administration.

"The selection process is tedious and extremely competitive," Shelide said. "There are over 700,000 law enforcement officers in the United States, and each year approximately 720 are selected to attend this prestigious program."

Coil was one of only four executive officers from the state of Michigan who was selected to attend the academy this year.

"This was something that had been a goal of mine for the past 12 years," Coil said. "So being selected (for the training) was definitely a highlight of my career in law enforcement."

According to Coil, the program featured several hours of classroom instruction on topics ranging from behavioral and forensic sciences to leadership development and media relations, as well as a physical fit-



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SHELBY TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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ness component.

"I've never felt physically unfit, but the (physical) challenge was no joke," Coil said. "It was tough."

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

recognized internationally in their fields of expertise.

"We had some of the best and brightest minds in the field, and they pushed all of us to work hard every day," Coil said. "It was a great experience, and I'm glad I was able to participate."

Shelide knows firsthand how intense – and rewarding – the 10-week training program can be. He graduated from the FBI National Academy in 2013 while serving with the Southfield Police Department and was previously the only member of the Shelby Township Police Department to have participated in the program.

"I did a lot of research when I attended and wrote several time-consuming papers," Shelide said. "I was exposed to some very intelligent men who happen to be great leaders. I soaked up as much as I could from them and stay in touch with three of them to this day."