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November 21, 2011

Mr. Don Green
Executive Director
UT LEIC
1201 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37380

Dear Director Green,

It is with great pleasure that the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police endorse the National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program. This collaboration between the University of Tennessee's LEIC and UT Martin campus to provide crime scene investigative training to criminal justice majors can only enhance these individual's skills as they seek careers in law enforcement.

Both entities, LEIC and UTM, are recognized for their strong support in preparing individuals who are either seeking entrance into our profession or to improve their skills if already working in the field. This initiative is one that is frequently requested as providing a combination of lecture and hands on skill building. The National Forensic Academy is recognized for such training and knowing that previously it has been limited only to law enforcement professionals, this expansion in the preparatory stage of an individual's careers can be a great asset to law enforcement agencies across the state of Tennessee.

As we acknowledge this enhancement to an individual's skills, we are happy to give graduates of this program consideration in the hiring process for our agencies. While it does not negate that other factors may influence our hiring decisions, individuals who have met the requirements of this program clearly bring skills to an agency at entry that otherwise we would be seeking for them after the hiring process. All of us recognize that skills and experience brought to an agency only enhances our ability to impact community concerns and provide services to our citizens.

We wish you the best in this initiative.

Sincerely,

Chief Joe Garner
Union City PD
TACP President

Maggi M. Duncan
Executive Director

cc: TACP Board of Directors