



## PRESS RELEASE

From the office of:  
Sheriff James Stuart  
Anoka County Sheriff's Office  
13301 Hanson Blvd. NW  
Andover, MN 55304  
(763) 324-5000

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

---

### **Lt. Brent Erickson of the Anoka County Sheriff's Office Graduates from the Prestigious FBI National Academy**



On March 13, 2020, Lieutenant Brent Erickson along with 254 other law enforcement officers graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. The 279th session of the National Academy consisted of men and women from 49 states and the District of Columbia. The class included members of law enforcement agencies from 32 countries, five military organizations, and eight federal civilian organizations.

Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy offers 10 weeks of advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training. Participants must have proven records as professionals within their agencies to attend. On average, these officers have 21 years of law enforcement experience and usually return to their agencies to serve in executive-level positions. Lt. Erickson has been with the Anoka County Sheriff's

Office for 19 years and currently serves as the commander of the Anoka-Hennepin Narcotics and Violent Crimes Task Force. Anoka County Sheriff James Stuart said, "We remain committed to serving with excellence and ensuring that our team members have the right tools to get the job done. Proper training is one of the most important tools that we can provide. The FBI NA is an exceptional training opportunity for our command staff members to enhance their leadership abilities. We are grateful that Lt. Erickson was able to take advantage of this opportunity and bring the knowledge back to our own team and our communities."

FBI Director Christopher Wray delivered remarks at the graduation ceremony. Class spokesperson Jason M. DiMarco of the Westwego, Louisiana Police Department represented the graduating officers.

FBI Academy instructors, special agents, and other staff with advanced degrees provide the training; many instructors are recognized internationally in their fields. Since 1972, National Academy students have been able to earn undergraduate and graduate credits from the University of Virginia, which accredits many of the courses offered. During his 10 weeks at the National Academy, Lt. Erickson took courses in Critical Incident Management, Dealing with At-Risk Employees, Fitness Training, and two separate leadership courses.

A total of 52,795 graduates have completed the FBI National Academy since it began in 1935. The National Academy is held at the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, the same facility where the FBI trains its new special agents and intelligence analysts.

Lt. Erickson stated, "I am incredibly fortunate to have had this opportunity. The National Academy allowed me to further develop and hone my leadership skills to be better able to serve the people I work with and the citizens of Anoka County." One of the most beneficial aspects of the National Academy is networking with other law enforcement professionals. "It is great to know that I have 254 resources from across the country and around the world that are only a phone call away", said Erickson.

Lieutenant Andy Knotz  
(763) 324-5004