Estate Gift Establishes Scholarship for Central Missouri Police Academy

WARRENSBURG, MO (Nov. 14, 2014) – The generosity of a University of Central Missouri alumnus will provide new opportunities for Missouri law enforcement personnel to attend the Central Missouri Police Academy at the University of Central Missouri.

As a result of a bequest to the UCM Foundation from the estate of the late Dama Cooper, a veteran Missouri law enforcement and UCM alumnus, the Dama Cooper Police Academy Scholarship will provide a limited number of $500 to $1,000 scholarships for each academy class session. The scholarships will be awarded to eligible academy cadets and students who exhibit financial need and an interest in pursuing a law enforcement career in Missouri.

Application deadline for the first round of scholarships is Dec. 1, 2014. The application is available online at ucmo.edu/cooper, or by contacting the Central Missouri Police Academy, 200 Ming St., Warrensburg, Mo., 64093, at 800-801-3588 or 660-543-4090, or by email cmpa@ucmo.edu.

A native of Atchison, Kan., Cooper served in the U.S. Army from 1960 to 1965 and attended UCM, studying criminal justice. He began his law enforcement career with the Warrensburg Police Department, later joining the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, where he served until his retirement. He also was past Chapter 2 Commander and Past State Commander of the Disabled American Veterans.

“Dama Cooper’s dedication to law enforcement is exhibited in his foresight in creating this gift,” said Colin Comer, director of the Central Missouri Police Academy. “Future law enforcement officers will have an opportunity to access assistance in taking advantage of the training required for successful careers.”

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