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Seven new Navajo police officers graduate from academy

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Seven proud, new Navajo police officers of the Navajo Police Training Academy Class of 60 graduated Friday after 20 weeks of physical and intellectual instruction.

wrong. They're going to expect you to be there. They expect you to have competence. They expect you to be almost Superman."



The new officers are Trina Begay, who is assigned to the Tuba City District, Tyler Begay, who will go to the Chinle District, Augustine Castro, assigned to Window Rock District, Jordon Gruber, assigned to Window Rock District, Maurice Kuwanhysima, assigned to Tuba City District, Deian Lefthand, assigned to Crownpoint District, and Jalen Tsinajinnie-Descheeny, who is assigned to the Window Rock District.

"These seven recruits that you see here today have stepped up for a challenge that very few are willing to take off." Recruit Training Officer Grant Keams told 150 family

members who came to celebrate their graduates.

After the new officers received their official certifications and badges from Navajo Police Chief Ronald Silversmith, family members came forward with smiles and some tears to pin badges onto each uniforms for the first time.

"That pinning on of that badge has so much significance," said Navajo Division of Public Safety Executive Director Michael Anderson. "I ask your friends and family to support you each and every day that you do this. Be proud of who you are. People are going to come to you with something

"They have learned what they are capable of," he said. "Class 60, you will see the world differently. As you transform from civilian to police officer, your life will change in many ways. You will need a newfound family outside of home, your police family.

With their new assignments, they will continue another 14 weeks of training, he said.

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