

# SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND LEGAL STUDIES

#### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Whether it's providing order or enforcing laws, playing an important role in the legal system, or helping someone in need, a career in law or public safety can save lives.

The School of Public Safety has three major program areas: Criminal Justice, Fire Rescue, and Safety and Security. The next generation of public safety professionals are trained using state-of-the-art technology and the latest in fire command and tactical simulation training. By offering programs for firefighters, law enforcement, corrections and security under one umbrella, Valencia College elevates and unifies training standards across all disciplines of public safety. This interdisciplinary approach promotes cross-sector training and collaboration between public safety agencies to help make our communities safer — both in times of crisis and while maintaining peace.

Through the Associate in Science degree in Paralegal Studies, students will develop a strong background in areas such as civil litigation, real property, business organizations, legal research and legal technology, as well as an understanding of the ethical framework within which they will work.

#### Job Outlook in the Central Florida Area

As the population of Florida increases and cities and municipalities continue to grow, there will be an increased need for qualified law enforcement officers and fire personnel, as well as legal assistants, to serve and help protect our communities.

Employment for paralegals is projected to grow much faster than average, as employers try to reduce costs and increase efficiency of legal services by hiring paralegals to perform tasks once done by lawyers. A.S. PLACEMENT RATES AND STARTING SALARIES\*

#### **Criminal Justice**

Annual Earnings **\$50,652** 



# Law Enforcement Academy

Annual Earnings **\$50,796** 



## Fire Science Technology

Annual Earnings **\$54,900** 



## **Paralegal Studies**

Annual Earnings **\$44,367** 



\*Placement Rate based on the total number of individuals found employed, continuing education or in the military, according to the most recent Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) data.



