



PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION
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NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

April 1, 2013

Accreditation Assessment Team Invites Public Comments

Department is Seeking Accreditation for St. Louis Police Communications Division

The Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis (“the department”) will host a team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®) on April 7, 2013. The on-site assessment team will examine all aspects of the department’s Communications Division policies, procedures, management, operations and support services. Public comment is invited by the on-site assessment team.

Verification by the assessment team that the Communications Division meets the Commission’s state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to gain CALEA® accreditation, which recognizes departments with professional excellence.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency personnel and members of the community are invited to offer comments to the on-site assessment team by phone. Telephone comments are limited to 10 minutes and must address the department’s ability to comply with CALEA® Public Safety Communications Accreditation Standards. The CALEA® standards can be reviewed at Police Headquarters, 1200 Clark Avenue.

Phone comments will be accepted by the on-site assessment team on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Those wishing to offer comment may do so by calling (314) 444-1275.

Citizens and employees wishing to offer written comments about the Communications Division ability to meet the standards for accreditation, are requested to write to CALEA® at 13575 Heathcote Blvd, Suite 320 Gainesville, Virginia, 20155.

In order to gain accredited status, the Communications Division must comply with 212 standards.

The assessment team is composed of public safety officials from similar departments around the country. The assessors for the on-site visit are Chief George Carpenter, a retiree from the Wilmette, IL Police Department and Ms. Pamela Cimburke, a Programs Manager from the Chesterfield County Virginia Emergency Communications Center. The assessors will review written material, interview staffers and visit areas of the department where compliance can be witnessed.

The assessors will report their findings to the full commission and a decision will be made to grant or deny accreditation. Accreditation is for three years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

The Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis received its initial CALEA® Law Enforcement Accreditation award in 2007, and was re-accredited in 2010. It received initial CALEA® Training Academy Award in 2012.

Lt. Thomas Percich serves as CALEA® Accreditation Manager for the department.

CALEA® was established in 1979 to assist law enforcement agencies in establishing and maintaining high standards of excellence. Though voluntary, accreditation is a highly-regarded acknowledgement of public safety professional excellence and ensures that law enforcement agencies meet state-of-the-art standards.

For more information regarding the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., please write the Commission at 13575 Heathcote Blvd, Suite 320 Gainesville, Virginia, 20155; or call (703) 352-4225 or visit the CALEA® website at www.calea.org.

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