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**NEWS RELEASE**

## **METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

August 3, 2013

### **Communications Division Earns CALEA® Accreditation**

*Department receives prestigious TRI-ARC Award*

This evening, Chief Sam Dotson announced that the Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis (“the department”) Communications Division successfully completed the process designed to attain international recognition as an accredited public safety communications unit by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. CALEA®, “the Commission.” The accreditation was awarded on Saturday, August 3 in Columbus, Ohio. The department is only the second agency in the state of Missouri to receive this accreditation.

CALEA®, the Gold Standard in Public Safety Accreditation, was established in 1979 by the four major law enforcement executive associations: International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE); National Sheriffs’ Association (NSA); and Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). The Commission was established in part to administer an accreditation process through which law enforcement agencies could demonstrate they meet professionally recognized criteria for excellence.

In addition to receiving the Public Safety Communications Accreditation, the department also received the CALEA® TRI-ARC Award. This prestigious award is given to agencies that have concurrent CALEA® accreditation for their law enforcement, public safety communications and public safety training agencies. The department is only the 12<sup>th</sup> agency internationally to receive this award.

To achieve accreditation, the Communications Division met 212 applicable “best practice” standards covering a range of areas including: organization; direction and supervision; human resources; recruitment, selection and promotion; training; operations; and critical incidents, special operations and homeland security. The goals of the Public Safety Communications Accreditation are to promote superior public safety communications services and recognize professional excellence.

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