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NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

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St. Louis Police Academy Earns CALEA® Accreditation

Chief Dan Isom announced today that the St. Louis Police Academy successfully completed the process designed to attain international recognition as an accredited public safety training academy by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. CALEA®, “the Commission.” The accreditation was awarded on Saturday, March 24 in Mobile, Alabama at CALEA’s® Spring Conference. This marks the first time in the history of the St. Louis Police Academy that it has been awarded accreditation by the Commission.

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.

Chesterfield Police Chief Ray Johnson serves on the 21-member Commission. “I complimented the agency on how well they prepared for the assessment teams visit in such a short time frame. Everything was in order and the checks and balances we look for were certainly in place,” said Johnson. “As a law enforcement professional in the St. Louis Metropolitan area it is nice to see another academy in our region earn accreditation.”

To achieve accreditation the St. Louis Police Academy met 158 applicable “best practice” standards covering a range of areas including: credentialing; organization; direction and authority; human resources; recruitment, selection, employment and promotion; instructional systems; training administration; instructors; and students. The goals of the Public Safety Training Academy Accreditation Program are to promote superior public safety training services and recognize professional excellence. It is only the second training academy in the state to become CALEA® accredited, joining the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy.

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