

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Officer Robin Massey
(954) 797-7668

ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT Plantation, Florida, August 21-24

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) will arrive August 21st, 2010 to examine all aspects of the Plantation Police Department policies and procedures, management, operations, and support devices, Chief W. Howard Harrison announced today.

Verification by the team that Plantation Police Department meets the Commissions' state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to maintain accreditation- a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence, he said.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session August 23rd, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. The session will be conducted in the Media Room located at the Plantation Police Department, 451 NW 70 Terrace, Plantation, Florida.

If for some reason an individual cannot speak at the public information session but would still like to provide comments to the assessment team, he/she may do so by telephone. The public may call 797-2736 on Monday, August 23rd, between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Telephone comments as well as appearances at the public information session are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. A copy of the standards are available for review in the Support Services Division, second floor of the Police Department. Local contact is Officer Robin Massey or Officer Tom Anastasiou at (954) 797-2700.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the Plantation Police Department's ability to meet the standards for accreditation are requested to write: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement, Inc. (CALEA), 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, Virginia, 20155.

The Plantation Police Department has to comply with 469 CALEA standards in order to maintain accredited status. Chief W. Howard Harrison said " The most desired recognition of a Law Enforcement Agency comes from the community in which the agency serves and that is the basis for successful community policing. The advantages of National Accreditation are many, above all, the community will benefit by having a better trained and prepared police

department.”

The accreditation Program Manager for Plantation Police Department is Officer Robin Massey. She said “the assessment team is comprised of law enforcement practitioners from similar but out-of-state agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices and other places where compliance can be witnessed”. The assessors are:

C.A.L.E.A. Team Leader:
Chief Kimberly Crannis, Blacksburg Police Department

C.A.L.E.A Assessor:
Susan Lowrey, University of Vermont Police Services

Once the Commissions’ assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to their respective commissions, which will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status, Officer Massey stated.

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.