



Bluffton Police Department

DATE: October 16, 2017

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CALEA On-Site Assessment

October 29, 2017 – November 1, 2017

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) will arrive **October 29, 2017** to examine all aspects of the Bluffton Police Department's policy and procedures, administration, operations, and support services, Chief Joseph Manning announced today. This is the department's third re-accreditation assessment.

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

As part of the accreditation on-site assessment, employees and members of community are invited to offer comments at a public information session Monday, October 30, 2017 at 6:00 – 8:00 PM. The session will be held at the Rotary Community Center located at 11 Recreation Court, Bluffton, SC 29910.

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 by calling (843) 422-5344 on October 30, 2017 between the hours of 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM.

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 is available at the Bluffton Police Department. Local contact is Dana Smith, Accreditation Manager, (843)706-7804.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the Bluffton Police Department's ability to meet the standards for accreditation are requested to write: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320 Gainesville, Virginia 20155; or call (703) 352-4225 or email calea@calea.org.

The Bluffton Police Department has to comply with 462 standards in order to gain accredited status, Chief Joseph Manning said. CALEA is imperative to a Law Enforcement Agency because it ensures we're operating at standards that all other accredited agencies are. We're not making it up as we go. We are maintaining it."

Accreditation is for four years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

For more information regarding the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. please write the Commission at 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320 Gainesville, Virginia 20155; or call (703)352-4225 or [email calea@calea.org](mailto:calea@calea.org).

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