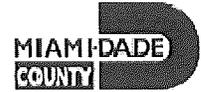


Memorandum



Date: July 14, 2016

To: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: Invitation to Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Public Hearing and Accreditation Overview

The Miami-Dade Police Department cordially invites you to attend the Department's public hearing to maintain reaccreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), Inc., on Wednesday, August 3, 2016, from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., in the Miami-Dade Commission Chambers, 111 NW First Street, 2 Floor. As part of the final phase of accreditation assessment, agencies are encouraged to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of obtaining feedback from the community and employees regarding the Department's performance. The session is not a public forum for discussion of local matters that do not fall within the purview of the accreditation standards. The CALEA Team Leader may exercise discretion in adjusting the time allotted for speakers, completing the session, or concluding oral presentations.

ACCREDITATION OVERVIEW AND BENEFITS

Accreditation provides law enforcement agencies with a process to systematically conduct an internal review and assessment of agency policies and procedures and make adjustments wherever necessary to meet a body of law enforcement standards, and provides the following:

- Greater accountability within the agency;
- Stronger defense against civil lawsuits;
- Increased community advocacy; and
- Support from government officials.

MDPD AND ACCREDITATION

- As one of the largest law enforcement agency in the Southeastern United States, local leaders felt it was in the County's best interest to become accredited. Municipal agencies within Miami-Dade County rely on MDPD support services in seeking their own accreditation.
- MDPD initially became CALEA accredited in 1993 following the dedicated work of an 11-member MDPD team of personnel over a two-year period. Currently, the Department maintains compliance with over 450 CALEA standards. MDPD also attained comparative compliance with accreditation standards from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc., in 2004. The State accreditation process requires that agencies comply with a reduced number of standards, 81 out of 280 standards, based on an agency's continued compliance with CALEA standards.
- Every three (3) years, MDPD is required to undergo an on-site assessment to maintain accreditation status. CALEA Assessors will conduct a site visit beginning August 1, 2016.

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During the visit, assessors will review standard files, conduct tours of various departmental facilities, and interview personnel throughout the Department with regard to their duties/procedures.

- Maintaining accreditation strongly contributes to the Department carrying out its mission of providing service with integrity, respect, and fairness.

On behalf of the Department, I look forward to your support in this reaccreditation effort.

c: Russell Benford, Deputy Mayor, Office of the Mayor
Juan J. Perez, Director, Miami-Dade Police Department