



PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Comment on Police Department Sought as 2009 Re-accreditation Process Begins

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY . . . From August 22-25, the Prince William County Police Department will be hosting a team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). These assessors will be examining all aspects of the Department's management, operations, support services, and policies and procedures, including public comments about the Police Department.

The assessment team will verify that the Prince William County Police Department meets and maintains the Commission's state-of-the-art standards to renew the Department's nationally accredited status for a three-year period.

The public is invited to offer comments to the assessors on the Department's services and performance as they relate to the Commission's standards. Comments may be provided as follows:

- The assessment team will receive telephone calls on Monday, August 24, 2009, between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. **The telephone number at which the assessors may be reached is 703-792-7453.**
- The assessment team will hold a **public information session on Monday, August 24, 2009, beginning at 7 p.m.** The location is the Prince William County Development Services Building, Rooms 107 A and B, 5 County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia.
- Written comments may be directed to: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), 10302 Eaton Place, Suite 100, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-2215

Comments received either during the public information session or by telephone are limited to 10 minutes. All comments received by the Commission or its assessors must address the Department's ability to comply with the accreditation standards.

The assessment team of two law enforcement practitioners from similar, out-of-state agencies are Captain Russ McElwee (Ret), Team Leader and Lieutenant Shawna Williams. This team will review written materials, interview employees, and visit departmental facilities to ensure that the Department is in compliance with all applicable standards.

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Re-accreditation
Page 2

Upon completion of the on-site assessment, the team will report its findings to the full 21-member Commission, which will then consider the Department for re-accreditation.

For more information concerning the accreditation program, please contact the Department's Accreditation Manager, First Sergeant Dawn Harman at 703-792-5827, or write to the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., at the above listed address. A copy of the standards is available through the Accreditation Manager.

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