



News Release

Alachua County Sheriff's Office

Sadie Darnell, Sheriff

P.O. Box 5489 Gainesville, Florida 32627

Office (352) 367-4050 • Fax (352) 374-1808 • <http://www.alachuasheriff.org>



For Immediate Release:

Today's Date: October 13, 2016

Prepared by: Lt. Brandon Kutner

Release #: 2016-047

Media Advisory: Accreditation Assessment Team Invites Public Comments

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Combined Communications Center (CCC) is scheduled for an on-site assessment to begin on November 06, 2016, as part of a program to achieve reaccreditation through the Public Safety Communications Accreditation Program (PSCAP). The on-site assessment is scheduled for November 06-09, 2016.

Administered by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), the accreditation program requires agencies to comply with state-of-the-art standards in seven (7) basic areas: Organization Direction and Supervision; Human Resources Recruitment, Selection, and Promotion; Training, Operations, Critical Incidents, Special Operations and Homeland Security.

"This verification by the on-site assessment team that the Alachua County Sheriff's Office Combined Communications Center meets the state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to gain this reaccreditation – a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence," Sheriff Darnell stated.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office Combined Communications Center has 213 CALEA PSCAP standards to comply with in order to gain accredited status.

The assessment team is composed of communications 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 and verified. The assessors are:

Ms. Jo-Anne Munroe (Team Leader)
Virginia Beach, VA

Ms. Sara Ivy
Athens-Clarke County Police Department, Athens, GA

As part of the on-site assessment, ACSO employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments by calling (352) 264-6696 on Monday, November 07, 2016, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Comments will be taken by the CALEA Assessment Team Members.

Telephone comments are limited to ten (10) minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. A copy of the standards is available from the Policy and Accreditation Unit of the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, which is located in the Department of the Jail at 3333 NE 39th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32609

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the Alachua County Sheriff's Office Combined Communications Center's ability to meet the standards for accreditation are requested to write to: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320; Gainesville, VA 20155; or email calea@calea.org.

"Once the CALEA Assessors, who have been chosen by the Commission, complete their review of the agency, they report back to the full CALEA Commission, who will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status," said Michelle Klement, ACSO's Communications Operations Bureau Chief and supervisor for the CCC Accreditation Team.

Reaccreditation is a process which must be earned every three years. During this time, 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. visit their webpage at www.calea.org.

For more information regarding the on-site assessment, the CALEA Accreditation Standards or for any additional information concerning CCC's accreditation process, please contact Bureau Chief Michelle Klement at (352) 264-6662, or Accreditation Team Member Kimberly Kutner at (352) 374-1846