ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, inc. (CALEA ®), will arrive December 8, 2013 to examine all aspects of the University of Florida Police Department’s policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Chief Linda Stump announced today.

“Verification by the team that the University of Florida Police Department meets the Commission’s state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation – a highly prized recognition of public safety professional excellence” Chief Stump said.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency personnel and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session December 10, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. The session will be conducted in the Community Services Division classroom located next to the University Police Administration Building on Museum Road.

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 352-273-3310 on December 10, 2013 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 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 Standards. To review CALAEA Standards a copy is available 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the police department’s Professional Standards Office 352-392-9583.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the University of Florida 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 University of Florida Police Department has to comply with 482 standards in order to gain accredited status, Chief Stump said. The accreditation process provides the Police Department an independent, objective peer review of our policies and practices ensuring we are providing the best possible law enforcement services to our community.

The CALEA Program Manager for the University of Florida Police Department is Mr. Vince Dauro. Assessment teams are composed of public safety practitioners from similar, but out-of-state agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices and other locations where compliance can be witnessed.

The assessors are: Team Leader – Chief Judith King (Retired), California State University Fullerton, Fullerton, CA; Assessor – Mrs. Blythe Frausto (Retired), Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

Once the CALEA Assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to the full Commission, which will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status.

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.

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 (800) 368-3757 or (703) 352-4225 or www.calea.org.

For questions regarding information contained in this release, please contact Major Brad Barber at (352) 273-3301, or after hours at (352) 392-1111 [#UFPD (#8373)]. Major Barber may also be reached via e-mail at wbarber@ufl.edu, or visit the University of Florida Police Department webpage at http://www.police.ufl.edu/

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