

November 21, 2012

News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Police Department Receives CALEA Reaccreditation**

On November 17, 2012 Police Chief Paul Williams, Accreditation Manager Cindy Leven, Sergeant Patrick Haenni, and Lt. Ben King of the Springfield Police Department appeared before the Board of Commissioners for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), during the CALEA conference in Jacksonville, Florida to be reviewed for reaccreditation. At the conclusion of the hearing, and upon a vote by the entire Board of Commissioners, full accreditation status was awarded to the Springfield Police Department.

The SPD was also awarded "Meritorious" recognition for achieving 15 continuous years of accreditation. Since achieving initial accreditation in 1997, the SPD has been required to apply for re-accreditation and submit to a similar review every three years in order to maintain accredited status. This marks the fifth successful accreditation review for the Springfield Police Department by CALEA.

Currently, there are nearly 16,000 agencies in the U.S. eligible for accreditation by CALEA. Fewer than 5% have successfully applied for, and subsequently achieved, this recognition.

The SPD is committed to this voluntary accreditation process and to CALEA, the only national organization available that provides such certification and oversight into the standards, policies, procedures, and operations of police agencies.

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