



COTTAGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

SUBJECT: **THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS**

NEW REVISED RESCINDS

APPROVED: *GM*
GEORGIA MILTENBERGER
ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

Effective Date 8/22/2018

I. POLICY

- A. The Cottage City Police Department believes that law enforcement is indeed a profession, and because the Department seeks to continuously improve itself and the quality of the services that its members provide; it is the policy of the Department to commit itself to the accreditation program.
- B. The accreditation program for law enforcement agencies is a joint effort of the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and four major law enforcement executive membership associations: The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), the National Sheriffs Association (NSA), and The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).
- C. CALEA was formed to develop an accreditation process that provides law enforcement agencies an opportunity to demonstrate voluntarily that they meet an established set of professional standards.
- D. The several hundred professionally developed standards are designed to: (1) increase law enforcement agency capabilities to prevent and control crime; (2) increase agency effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of law enforcement services; (3) increase cooperation and coordination with other law enforcement agencies of the criminal justice system; and (4) increase citizen and employee confidence in the goals, objectives, policies, and practices of the agency.

II. DEPARTMENT NETWORKING

The Department is an advocate for accreditation through its membership in the Chesapeake Region Law Enforcement Accreditation Alliance (CRLEAA).

Whenever possible, the Department's Accreditation Manager will attend CRLEAA network meetings and training sessions to keep abreast of items of interest pertaining to accreditation.

- A. The Department's Accreditation Manager is the Administrative Assistant, who shall, among other duties, maintain liaison with other law enforcement agencies. The Department, when called upon, will assist other agencies in their pursuit of accreditation.
- B. The Department will strive to have the Accreditation Manager and the Chief attend one CALEA conference each year.

III. PROCESS FAMILIARIZATION

- A. During the "self-assessment" phase associated with initial accreditation, all Department personnel will be provided with information designed to familiarize them with the accreditation process.
- B. Just prior to an "on-site" assessment and each re-accreditation, all Department personnel will be provided with information designed to familiarize them with accreditation 'on-site' assessment.
- C. All newly hired personnel of the Department (sworn and non-sworn) will be familiarized with the accreditation process within a reasonable period after their employment begins.