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NEWS RELEASE

NR# 22-01

ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

(Sanford, FL, 2/24/2022) – The Seminole County Sheriff's Office is scheduled for a site-based assessment as part of a program to achieve reaccreditation by verifying it meets professional standards. Due to COVID-19, this assessment will be conducted virtually.

Assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA^{*}), will examine all aspects of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office's policies and procedures, administration, operations, and support services. Verification by the team that the Seminole County Sheriff's Office meets the Commission's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to maintain accreditation—a highly prized recognition of public safety professional excellence. As part of the assessment, agency personnel and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 5:00 PM. The session will be conducted at the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, first floor community room, at 100 Eslinger Way, Sanford, FL 32773.

If 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 407-665-6723 on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 between the hours of 2:00 PM and 4:00PM.

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. A copy of the standards is available through Sergeant Will Stone, <u>wstone@seminolesheriff.org</u>.

Anyone wishing to offer written comments about the Seminole County Sheriff's Office'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, VA 20155.

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office must comply with 375 standards in order to maintain accredited status.

Accreditation is for four years, during which the agency must submit annual reports, and participate in annual remote web-based assessments attesting continued compliance with those standards under which it was previously 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, VA 20155; or call (703) 352-4225 or email calea@calea.org.

For more information contact:

Mgr. Kim Cannaday (<u>kcannady@seminolesheriff.org</u>) (407) 665-6978 (407) 402-3319