



Date: 03/19/2024**NEWS RELEASE****NR# 24-04**

ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

Seminole Co. Fla. (March 19, 2024) – The Seminole County Sheriff’s Office is scheduled for an annual assessment by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®), for our Communications Center and are Law Enforcement programs as part of our review process to achieve reaccreditation by verifying we meet best practice professional standards. The annual assessments will take place between May and July 2024. CALEA® accreditation is a four-year cycle 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. Every 4 years an on-site assessment is also conducted to allow assessors to assess the agency in person and obtain more firsthand observations, interviews and interactions to ensure compliance with the required standards.

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. The assessors seek to verify the compliance of the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office with 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.

CALEA® has arranged for a public comment portal to allow for agency personnel and members of the community to provide feedback and comments regarding the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office. The purpose of this public comment portal is to receive comments regarding an agency’s compliance with CALEA standards, engagement in the service community, delivery of public safety services, and overall candidacy for accredited status. The overall intent of the accreditation process is to provide the participating agency with information to support continuous improvement, as well as foster the pursuit of professional excellence. These comments can be in the form of commendations or concerns.

IMPORTANT: CALEA® is not an investigatory body and subsequently the public portal should not be used to submit information for such purposes. Additionally, there will be no response other than acknowledgement to submissions; however, the information will be considered in context to its relevancy to compliance with standards and the tenets of CALEA® Accreditation.

The link to the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office CALEA® public comment site is <https://cimrs2.calea.org/345>. The Seminole County Sheriff’s public website can be located at www.seminolesheriff.org if you are interested in finding further information about our agency.

The link is now open for comments and will remain open until May 17, 2024.

A copy of the standards is available through Manager Susan Malcho at smalcho@seminolesheriff.org.

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.

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