

Seminole County Sheriff's Office Pursuing National Reaccreditation -- Assessment Team Invites Public - 04/26/2012

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) will arrive on Monday, April 30 to examine aspects of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office's (SCSO) policies and procedures, management, operations and support services related to law enforcement services. Accreditation is a voluntary process that enables agencies to demonstrate compliance with established standards for professionalism and excellence.

The Sheriff's Office employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments to the assessment team regarding the SCSO's ability to comply with CALEA standards. Comments may be provided by any of the following methods:

- Via telephone. Persons may call 407-665-6947 on Tuesday, May 1 between 2 and 4 p.m.
- In person. A public hearing with the assessment team will be held on Tuesday, May 1 at 6:00 p.m. in the SCSO Community Room located at 100 Bush Blvd., Sanford, Fla. Comments are limited to 10 minutes per person.
- In writing. Written correspondence may be submitted to: CALEA, 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320 Gainesville, Virginia 20155.

The Accreditation Manager for the Sheriff's Office is John Rankin. The assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from similar, but out-of-state agencies. The assessors are Superintendent of Peel Regional Police (Ret.) Susan Maycock and Chief of Police Dennis Nelson of Metter, Georgia. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices and other areas where compliance can be witnessed. The assessors report back to the full Commission, which will then decide if SCSO is to be granted re-accredited status.

Accreditation is for three years, during which time the Sheriff's Office must submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance with the standards under which it was initially accredited. In 1995, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office became the first law enforcement agency in Seminole County, and the 33rd Sheriff's Office in the nation, to receive accredited status for its law enforcement functions.