



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

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ROCKFORD POLICE RECEIVES CALEA REACCREDITATION

Department among just 5 percent of law enforcement agencies nationwide

ROCKFORD, IL - The Rockford Police Department was awarded reaccreditation status from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) during its summer conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The award comes six months after a 2014 onsite review with CALEA assessors. During the process, all aspects of the Rockford Police Department's policies, procedures, management, operations and support services were examined. Verification by the assessors that the Rockford Police Department meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation.

"The Rockford Police Department strives to provide constitutional policing to all individuals we encounter and the accreditation process provides the tools for this must standard for current law enforcement agencies," said Rockford Police Chief Chet Epperson.

The purpose of CALEA's Law Enforcement Accreditation Program is to improve delivery of public safety services and to recognize agency professionalism. This is accomplished by developing and maintaining a body of standards that cover a wide range of public safety initiatives, and establishing and administering an accreditation process. The Rockford Police Department earned its initial accreditation in 2009 and was re-accredited in 2012. The department is among just 5 percent of the law enforcement agencies nationwide accredited through CALEA.

"Our vision for the City of Rockford - 'Excellence Everywhere for Everyone,' and our organizational values, commit us to a practice of continuous improvement, said Mayor Larry Morrissey. "We have sought and gained accreditation in our core police, fire, and, most recently, ambulance services to support our vision of excellence in delivering services to our citizens. The CALEA reaccreditation demonstrates the city's ongoing commitment to operational excellence. From managing and deploying our personnel to responding to emergencies, police community relations and use of force, it is with great pride that we are among the very best in the nation as recognized through this process.

Lieutenant Mike Ahrens, Investigator Jason Mallo and Investigator Matthew Krantz attended the conference.

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