

NEWS RELEASE

North Dakota Highway Patrol

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 16th, 2009

CONTACT: Lieutenant Brandon Solberg, NDHP, 328-2455

ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®) will arrive in Bismarck May 2nd, 2009, to examine all aspects of the North Dakota Highway Patrol's policy and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Colonel Mark Nelson announced today.

Verification by the team that the North Dakota Highway Patrol meets the Commission's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to retain accreditation – a highly prized recognition of public safety professional excellence, Colonel Nelson said.

As a part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments by calling (866) 976-6204 on Monday, May 4th, 2009, between the hours of 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. CST. Comments will be taken by the Assessment Team.

Telephone comments are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. A copy of the standards is available at the North Dakota Highway Patrol Headquarters, State Capitol Building, 600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept. 504, Bismarck, ND. The North Dakota Highway Patrol contact is Lieutenant Brandon Solberg, 701-328-2455.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the North Dakota Highway Patrol's ability to meet the standards for accreditation are requested to write: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), 10302 Eaton Place, Suite 100, Fairfax, Virginia, 22030-2215.

“The North Dakota Highway Patrol has to comply with 345 standards in order to maintain accredited status,” Colonel Nelson said. “Accreditation assures the public that the North Dakota

Highway Patrol is committed to our core mission – to make a difference every day by providing high quality law enforcement services to keep North Dakota safe and secure.”

The Accreditation Manager for the North Dakota Highway Patrol is Lieutenant Brandon Solberg. He said the assessment team is composed of public safety practitioners from similar but out-of-state agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices and other locations where compliance can be observed.

The assessors are Superintendent Susan Maycock (Team Leader), Lieutenant Linda Johnson, and Staff/Sergeant Graham Hogg. Once the assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to the full CALEA Commission, who will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status, Lieutenant Solberg stated.

Accreditation is for three years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

For more information regarding the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., please write the Commission at 10302 Eaton Place, Suite 100, Fairfax, Virginia, 22030-2215; or call (800) 368-3757 or (703) 352-4225; or e-mail calea@calea.org.

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