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NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

November 10, 2016

CALEA® Accreditation Assessment Team Invites Public Comments *Department seeking re-accreditation*

St. Louis, Mo. – Police Commissioner Sam Dotson announced today that a team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®) will arrive Monday, November 14, 2016 to examine all aspects of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operations and support services.

Verification by the team that the department meets the Commission's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to gain CALEA re-accreditation, which recognizes departments with professional excellence.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency personnel and members of the community are invited to offer public comment at a public information session on Monday, November 14, 2016, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The session will be conducted in the large conference room of Police Headquarters, 1915 Olive St.

The public may also provide comment to the assessment team via telephone by calling (314) 444-1275 on Monday, November 14, 2016, between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Telephone comments as well as comments made at the public information session are limited to ten minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA standards.

In order to gain re-accredited status, the department must comply with 189 standards.

The assessment team is composed of public safety officials from similar departments around the country. The assessors for the on-site visit are Assistant Chief Michael Brett West from the Gwinnett County Police Department in Georgia and Captain Melvin Lange from the North Palm Beach Police Department in Florida. The assessors will review written material, interview individuals and visit areas of the department where compliance can be witnessed.

The assessors will report their findings to the full commission and a decision will be made to grant or deny accreditation. Accreditation is for four years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department received its initial CALEA Law Enforcement Accreditation award in 2007 and was re-accredited in 2010 and 2013. The department's Training Academy was accredited in 2012 and re-accredited in 2015 and its Communications Division was accredited in 2013 and re-accredited earlier this year. The department received the CALEA Tri-Arc Award in August 2013, reflecting the holding of three concurrent CALEA accreditations and is one of only fifteen agencies internationally with that distinction.

For more information regarding the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., please write the Commission at 13575 Heathcote Blvd, Suite 320 Gainesville, Virginia, 20155; or call (703) 352-4225 or visit the CALEA website at www.calea.org.

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