



News Release

Alachua County Sheriff's Office

Sadie Darnell, Sheriff

P.O. Box 5489 Gainesville, Florida 32627

Office (352) 367-4050 • Fax (352) 374-1808 • <http://www.alachuasheriff.org>



For Immediate Release:

Today's Date: March 28, 2017

Prepared by: PIO Art Forgey

Release #: 2017-010

Media Advisory: CCC Awarded Rec accreditation with Excellence

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Combined Communications Center (CCC) was awarded reaccreditation with Excellence under the "Gold Standard" Assessment in Mobile, Alabama, on Saturday, March 25, 2017. This is the second consecutive award at this level. CCC's last accreditation period was in 2014, when they first received the Gold Standard level with Excellence. Known as the Gold Standard Assessment (GSA), this voluntary assessment format focuses primarily on processes and outcomes associated with standards specific to agency policies. In short, it works to measure the impact of accreditation as opposed to simply confirming compliance through a file-by-file review. The standards set forth by the Public Safety Accreditation program prepare dispatchers and call-takers to be ready for any type of incident.

To achieve accreditation, the CCC met 213 applicable "best practice" standards covering a range of areas including:

- Agency organization, direction and supervision.
- Human resources recruitment, selection and promotion.
- Critical incident management, special operations and homeland security.
- Employee training.

The goals of the Public Safety Communications Accreditation are to promote superior public safety communications services and recognize professional excellence.

PIO Sgt. Chris Sims
Office: (352) 367-4041
Cell: (352) 538-5939

PIO Art Forgey
Office: (352) 367-4045
Cell: (352) 538-0861

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office Combined Communications Center (CCC) continues to meet or exceed national standards in public safety communications, as set forth by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA).

CALEA was created in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint efforts of four major law enforcement executive associations: International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE); National Sheriff's Association (NSA); and Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). The Commission was established in part to administer an accreditation process through which law enforcement agencies could demonstrate they meet professionally recognized criteria for excellence.

Only approximately four percent of communications centers within the United States are accredited. Out of those accredited, only 10 percent reach the Gold Standard with Excellence level.