



# DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

## CITY OF WOOD DALE

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## Press Release

**For Immediate Release : March 25, 2016**

### **WOOD DALE POLICE DEPARTMENT SEEKS “GOLD STANDARD” RE-ACCREDITATION By CALEA**

#### **ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chief Greg Vesta announced today that the Wood Dale Police Department will undergo assessment by a team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). The assessment team will arrive on April 10<sup>th</sup> to examine all aspects of the Wood Dale Police Department’s policies and procedures, operations, and support services.

Verification by the team that the Wood Dale Police Department meets the Commission’s state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process by the department to maintain the international Accreditation that the department first attained in 2001. Chief Vesta stated that Accreditation is recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.

The assessment team is comprised of law enforcement practitioners from out-of-state agencies. The assessment team will be led by Mr. Dennis Nelson of the Clayton County Correctional Institution, Clayton County, Georgia. The second team member is Ms. Linda Carlin of the Farmington Police Department of Unionville, Connecticut.

The assessors will review written materials, interview employees, observe practices and inspect facilities where compliance with the standards can be witnessed. Once the assessment team completes the review of the agency, they will report to the full Commission which will then determine if the Wood Dale Police Department should retain its accreditation status. The final decision on re-accreditation will be made in July 2016 at the CALEA Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.

As an element of the on-site assessment, department employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments at the public information session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2016. The session will be held in the City Council Chambers of the Wood Dale City Hall, 404 N. Wood Dale Road, Wood Dale.

If an individual cannot attend the session but wishes to provide comments to the assessment team, he or she may do so by telephone. Comments may be made to the assessors between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Monday April 11, 2016 by calling 630-787-3809.

Telephone comments as well as appearances at the public information session are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA Standards. A copy of the standards is available at the Wood Dale Police Department. For information regarding the standards or the accreditation process, please contact Sergeant Paul Wyse or Deputy Chief Mike Rivas at 630-766-2060.

Persons interested in submitting written comments about the Wood Dale Police Department's compliance with the standards for accreditation are requested to write: the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement, Inc. (CALEA), 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, VA 20155-6660.

The Wood Dale Police Department has to comply with up to 480 standards in order retain its accredited status, Chief Greg Vesta said. The Chief added that "Accreditation confirms the professional status of the Wood Dale Police Department and insures that the residents of Wood Dale receive delivery of the very best police services possible".

Accreditation is valid for four years, during which time 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 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, VA 20155 or call 703-352-4225 or e-mail [calea@calea.org](mailto:calea@calea.org).