

Apex Police Department Earns CALEA Accreditation

The Apex Police Department joined an elite group of law enforcement agencies across the country after receiving advanced accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Their status was awarded this past Saturday at CALEA's summer conference held in Schaumburg, Illinois.

Since the initial application was submitted in December 2010, all aspects of the APD's policies, training, procedures, management, operations and support services have been examined in detail by CALEA.

Adherence to 384 professional standards was documented in the process. These standards are set by CALEA and internationally recognized as those that increase agency effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of public safety services.

It also requires the agency to take a thorough, introspective look at its mission, objectives, and operation.

"This process has served as a blueprint to ensure the Apex Police Department is at the forefront of the best practices in the profession, achieves the level of professionalism and service delivery it is capable of and maintains that level as the needs of the community change," stated Apex Police Chief John Letteney.

The APD is one of only 55 agencies in North Carolina that currently holds national accreditation. Nationwide, an average of less than 5 percent of law enforcement agencies are accredited.

"We're very proud of the work that our department has done to show our citizens, and agencies across the country that the Apex Police Department is professional, and held accountable to the highest standards," said Apex Mayor Bill Sutton.

In April 2014, the APD participated in an onsite evaluation by a team of CALEA assessors that included interviews and ride-alongs with officers, a review of the department's policies and procedures, and an opportunity for the public to submit their comments and observations.

"We heard from the assessment team that the Apex citizens who participated in this process expressed their sense of safety in town," said Apex Town Manager Bruce Radford. "Above all, that is what our officers and Police personnel are all about – committing their actions every day to the well-being of our community."

The accreditation lasts for three years, at which time another evaluation would be required for reaccreditation.