



For Immediate Release: 11.26.07

From: David Powers
Communications Director
708.358.5781

Contact: Rick C. Tanksley
Police Chief
708.386.3800.

Police accreditation assessment team invites public comment

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) will be in the Village in early December to examine all aspects of Oak Park Police Department policy and procedures, management, operations and support services, Police Chief Rick C. Tanksley announced today.

Verification that the Oak Park Police Department meets the Commission's tough standards is part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation – a highly prized recognition of public safety professional excellence, he said.

As part of the on-site assessment, residents are invited to offer comments at a public meeting scheduled for 5 p.m., Mon., Dec. 10, in Room 101 at Village Hall, 123 Madison St.

Comments also may be made to the assessment team by calling 708.358.5588 from 2 – 4 p.m., on Dec. 10. Telephone comments, as well as appearances at the public information session, are limited to 10 minutes and must address the Police Department's ability to comply with CALEA Standards. A copy of the standards is available at the Police Department in Village Hall. Contact Officer John Hummons at 708.358.5556 for more information.

Written comments about the Oak Park Police Department's ability to meet the standards for accreditation may be sent to Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement, Inc. (CALEA), 10302 Eaton Place, Suite 100, Fairfax, Virginia, 22030-2215.

CALEA accreditation requires the Oak Park Police Department to comply with 459 applicable standards. CALEA assessors will review written materials, interview individuals and visit offices and other locations where compliance can be witnessed. The assessors include public safety and law enforcement officials from Tennessee, Ohio and Indiana.

Accreditation is for three years. The Police Department is required to submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance with the standards under which it was initially accredited.

For more information regarding CALEA accreditation, call 800.368.3757 or 703.352.4225. Information also is available online at www@calea.org.

###