

UW Whitewater Police



Training Personnel on the Accreditation Process

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Special Instructions: CALEA 33.5.3			
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I. Purpose

The purpose of this General Order is to provide guidelines on how UW-Whitewater Police Department (UWWPD) personnel will receive information regarding the department's accreditation process.

II. Definitions

Accreditation in Law Enforcement: A self-initiated, voluntary process where agencies operate within a specific set of state and nationally recognized standards or best practices within the industry. Accrediting bodies compile these best practices and regulations into standards manuals.

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA): A credentialing authority for public safety agencies created in 1979. The four organizations that started CALEA are the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), National Sheriffs Association (NSA) and Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).

Self-Assessment Phase: A thorough, internal review of policies and practices against accreditation standards. Compliance files are gathered, which include copies of agency policies along with proofs of compliance.

III. Policy

It is the policy of UWWPD that all existing and new personnel will be familiar with the CALEA accreditation process and what it entails during the self-assessment process. Familiarizing employees with the process will provide a historical perspective and emphasize the importance of accreditation to UWWPD, as well as ensure compliance.

IV. Procedure

A. UWWPD personnel will receive information regarding accreditation as follows:

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1. To all newly hired personnel within thirty days after their employment begins or within thirty days after completing the police academy; and
2. To all agency personnel during the self-assessment phase associated with achieving initial accreditation.

B. Training on accreditation should include:

1. History and background of accreditation and UWWPD's involvement in accreditation;
2. The accreditation process;
3. The goals and objectives of UWWPD accreditation;
4. Advantages of accreditation and its impact on UWWPD.

C. Training can be achieved using:

1. Classroom instruction;
2. Newsletter;
3. Memo;
4. Periodic attendance by command staff at CALEA conferences and accreditation support network meetings.