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# Media Release

**Contact:** Captain Kevin Newman

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** 07/25/2014

Madison, MS, 07/25/2014 - A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA ®) will arrive August 17, 2014 to examine all aspects of the City of Madison Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Chief M. E. Waldrop announced today.

Verification by the team that the Madison Police Department meets the Commission's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to gain advanced accreditation - a highly prized recognition of public safety professional excellence, he said. The Department has been previously accredited since November 2002.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency personnel and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session on Monday, August 18, 2014 at 7:00 PM. The session will be conducted in the court/board room of the City of Madison Justice Complex located at 2001 Main Street in Madison, MS.

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If for some reason an individual cannot speak at the public information session but would like to provide comments to the assessment team, he/she may do so by telephone. The public may call 601-500-2832 on Tuesday, August 19th, 2014 between the hours of 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM.

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 City of Madison Police Department. Local contact is Captain Kevin Newman, telephone number 601-856-6111.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the City of Madison Police Department's ability to meet the standards for accreditation are requested to write to: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, VA 22030-2215.

The Madison Police Department has to comply with 379 standards in order to continue advanced accredited status. "Advanced Law Enforcement accreditation provides the Madison Police Department a process for accountability to the citizens and public which the Department serves", Chief Waldrop said.

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The CALEA Program Manager for the Madison Police Department is Mr. Vince Dauro. He said the assessment team is composed of public safety practitioners from similar, but out-of-state agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices and other locations where compliance can be witnessed.

The assessors are: Team Leader - Major Terry Clanton of the Kannapolis, NC Police Department and Captain James Grainger of the Goose Creek, SC Police Department.

Once the CALEA assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to the full Commission, which will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status, Mr. Dauro stated.

Accreditation is for three years, during which 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 22030-2215; or call (703) 352-4225; or e-mail at [calea@calea.org](mailto:calea@calea.org).

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