

DATE: April 24, 2017

TO: Mayor Stokes and City Councilmembers

FROM: Chief Stephen Mylett

SUBJECT: CALEA Re-Accreditation for the Bellevue Police Department

On March 25, 2017, The Bellevue Police Department received the **Gold Standard Accreditation with Excellence Award** from the **Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation (CALEA)**. In addition to being accredited with excellence, the Bellevue Police Department received an enhanced **Certificate of Meritorious Accreditation** in recognition for having been accredited for 15 or more continuous years. I was proud to accept the awards along with other Police Department staff at the CALEA conference held in Mobile, AL. Approximately 100 agencies from across the country were accredited at the March conference, and of that number only 15 were recognized with the excellence award.

The CALEA Law Enforcement Accreditation Program reflects the current thinking and experience of law enforcement practitioners and researchers from around the world. Major law enforcement associations, leading educational and training institutions, governmental agencies, as well as law enforcement executives internationally, acknowledge CALEA's standards for law enforcement agencies and its accreditation programs as benchmarks for professional law enforcement. The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies was created in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint efforts of law enforcement's major executive associations:

- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP);
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE);
- National Sheriffs' Association (NSA); and the
- Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).

In order to be eligible for the Accreditation with Excellence Award the Bellevue Police Department was required to participate in an enhanced assessment format known as the Gold Standard Assessment. This assessment format goes beyond a review of an agency's policy and procedures. It focuses primarily on processes and outcomes associated with the standards specific to the agency to

measure the impact of accreditation on daily operations. Under this format the assessors observe the daily operation of the department, interview individual members of the department, and gather input from the citizens served by the agency.

The executive director for CALEA noted in correspondence, *“Your agency has clearly demonstrated a commitment to professionalism and CALEA accreditation has undoubtedly become an institutionalized management model for your organization.”*