



For more information, contact: Beth von Behren
Public Information Officer, City of Kirkwood
139 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, Missouri 63122
314-822-5894 or 314-495-7382 (cell)

For Immediate Release

Kirkwood Achieves CALEA Law Enforcement Accreditation

May 16, 2019

Kirkwood, Missouri: The City of Kirkwood has completed the three-year CALEA Law Enforcement Accreditation process and was awarded its accreditation certificate at a ceremony in Huntsville, Alabama, on May 4, 2019.

The City's Police Department embarked on the accreditation process in January 2016. Over the next three years, they completed a self-assessment process that evaluated policies, procedures, and practices, comparing them against 189 best practices standards established by CALEA – the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement agencies.

In October 2018, the Kirkwood Police Department's policies and proof of compliance were evaluated by CALEA staff in California and Georgia, and the City passed that review. Then in November 2018, an on-site assessment was conducted by two CALEA assessors. They observed facilities and operations, interviewed police and civilian employees, and held public information sessions that allowed citizens to voice opinions about the department to the CALEA assessors. In December 2018, the CALEA assessment team completed its report and submitted it to the Commission.

On May 4, Police Chief Brian Murphy, Police Captains John Folluo and Douglas Raymond, and Kirkwood's Chief Administrative Officer Russ Hawes participated in a hearing before the accreditation committee in Huntsville, Alabama, following which the Kirkwood Police Department was granted unconditional international accreditation.

In a letter to the City, the Commission commended the Kirkwood Police Department for "demonstrating a commitment to professional excellence in policy and practice."

"Accreditation helps an agency become more consistent with delivery of services, promotes best practices for law enforcement operations, provides checks and balances within policies and practices, and assists departments with gaining and keeping the public trust," said Captain John Folluo, who led the CALEA process in Kirkwood.

The CALEA accreditation is an ongoing process that requires policies to be implemented that address a wide variety of operational and administrative standards. It provides a mechanism to ensure agency compliance with those standards throughout the process. In fact, the re-accreditation process has already begun for the Kirkwood Police Department. This process will take four years.

In Missouri, 35 police agencies have achieved the CALEA accreditation, and 18 of those are in the St. Louis region. They are: St. Louis City Police, St. Louis County Police, and the police departments of Kirkwood, Brentwood, Chesterfield, Creve Coeur, Clayton, Des Peres, Florissant, Hazelwood, Maplewood, Maryland Heights, Rock Hill, Richmond Heights, Shrewsbury, St. Ann, Webster Groves, and the North County Police Cooperative.

Photo Attachment. Left to right: Unidentified CALEA official, Kirkwood Police Captain John Folluo, Kirkwood Police Chief Brian Murphy, Kirkwood Police Captain Doug Raymond, Kirkwood Chief Administrative Officer Russ Hawes, and unidentified CALEA official.

###