

## **Ridgeland Police Department Seeks Re-Accreditation**

Citizens invited to phone-in comments about the Ridgeland Police Department on October 30, 1-3 p.m.

Ridgeland, Mississippi (PRWEB) October 24, 2012 -- From October 29-31, 2012, a team of assessors from the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MSLEAC) will be conducting an on-site assessment at the Ridgeland Police Department. This assessment will be to verify the Department's compliance with standards established by the state Commission, as well as the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The Department received its initial accreditation in February, 2010. The department is required to demonstrate continued compliance with 123 professional standards to maintain its state accreditation and CALEA recognition.

The assessment team will be composed of professionals from Mississippi law enforcement agencies. The assessors will review agency policies and practices, interview department personnel, and closely examine files containing nearly 1,800 documents compiled by the department to demonstrate compliance.

The standards cover such topics as use of force, training, disciplinary procedures, selection process, promotions, career development, patrol, criminal investigation, pursuits and traffic. Adherence to accreditation standards prompts an agency to strengthen its crime prevention and control capabilities, establish written procedures for essential management functions, maintain fair personnel practices, improve delivery of police services, solidify inter-agency cooperation and coordination, and to boost citizen and staff confidence in the agency.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to phone in their comments about the Ridgeland Police Department. Telephone comments will be accepted on Tuesday, October 30, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. To comment, call (601) 856-2121. Telephone comments will be limited to 10 minutes per caller, and must directly address the Ridgeland Police Department's ability to comply with MSLEAC and CALEA standards.

After the on-site review is complete, assessors will report their findings to the state Accreditation Commission, which will make the final determination as to whether re-accreditation will be awarded.

Anyone interested in making written comments about the Ridgeland Police Department's ability to meet standards required for state accreditation and CALEA recognition are requested to send correspondence to: Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, ATTN: Accreditation Alliance Manager, 1025 Northpark Dr., Ridgeland, MS 39157.

For more information regarding the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, MSLEAC may be contacted at the address above, or by phone at (601) 987-3092. For more information regarding the Ridgeland Police Department's accreditation effort, please call Chief Jimmy Houston at (601) 856-2121.



Contact Information Sandra Monohan City of Ridgeland 601-856-7113 2052

## Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release here.