



PALM BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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DEPARTMENT RE-ACCREDITED WITH NEAR PERFECT RANKING

(Palm Bay)--An independent assessment team granted another seal of approval for the Palm Bay Police Department's policies and practices as being among the best in the State of Florida. The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) re-accredited the agency last week after a near perfect 3-day assessment that took place in late August. During that time the assessment team thoroughly reviewed all of the department's policies and procedures, interviewed personnel and evaluated the overall workings of the agency to determine if it continued to meet the high professional standards and best practices established by the commission for law enforcement agencies. "This validates for me what I believed from day one that the men and women of this agency are among the best in the state and the rest of the country," said Chief Bill Berger. "This agency is recognized as being elite in its class and the citizens of Palm Bay should take great comfort that their safety and security is well in hand."

According to the assessment team report the Palm Bay Police Department's assessment was "extremely smooth" and the agency members were not only "knowledgeable about their duties and the accreditation process" but it was clear that the "Palm Bay Police Department has made accreditation a part of its daily routine and corporate culture." "We found the department to be in full compliance with all applicable standards," wrote Team Leader Mike Cochran in his summary report. "It was the best on-site visit in all my years as an assessor. It is without hesitation the team recommends reaccreditation of this agency."

Palm Bay is now one of approximately 200 agencies in the state to maintain its accreditation status. The department is in compliance with 256 standards set by the commission to govern all aspects of professional law enforcement including everything from handling property and evidence to internal affairs, training and recruitment, use of force, special operations and other critical areas.

During the presentation Chief Bill Berger was also recognized for his role as being one of the "founding fathers" of the accreditation standards.

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