

WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE NEWS MEDIA RELEASE		NEWS RELEASE NUMBER 2016-081
INFORMATION: LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT		
DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2016	TIME: 1000 HOURS	PAGE 1 OF 1

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., will arrive on October 23, 2016 to examine all aspects of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office's policies and procedures, management, operations and support services, Sheriff Gary Caruana announced today.

Verification by the team that the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office meets the Commission's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to retain accreditation--international recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and the public are invited to offer comments by calling (815) 319-6188 on Monday, October 24, 2016, between the hours of 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM. Comments will be taken by the Assessment Team. Agency employees and members of the community are also invited to offer comments at a public information session on Monday, October 24, 2016, at 6:00 PM. The session will be conducted in Courtroom - A, which is located on the second floor of the Winnebago County Justice Center, 650 West State Street Rockford, Illinois.

Comments are limited to 5 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. A copy of the standards is available at the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, 650 West State Street, Rockford, Illinois. Individuals may contact Accreditation Manager Deputy Chief Don Gasparini Jr. at (815) 319-6184.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office's ability to meet standards for accreditation are requested to write to: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, VA 20155.

The accreditation process has provided the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office with the standards that reflect the best professional requirements and practices for a law enforcement agency.

The assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from similar, out-of-state, agencies. Once the Commission's 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.

Accreditation is for three (3) years, during which time the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with those standards under which they were initially accredited.

For more information regarding the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., please visit the CALEA website at www.CALEA.org or by telephone call 1-703-352-4225.