



Institutional Planning and Operations
University Public Safety
Rutgers University Police Department
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RUTGERS UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT SEEKS RE-ACCREDITATION FROM NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION

Members of the Rutgers community are invited to offer comment on Monday, March 27

In its continuing effort to enhance its capabilities and improve service to the university community, the Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) is seeking re-accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA®). The Rutgers Police Department was first accredited in July 2011. CALEA is a joint effort of law enforcement's major executive associations including:

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

The nationally recognized CALEA accreditation program requires agencies to comply with nearly 500 standards in four basic areas: policy and procedures, administration, operations and support services. Of the 17,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide, only 659 are CALEA-accredited. Fourteen law enforcement agencies in New Jersey – including the State Police – are accredited and the only other university in the state (the Public Safety Department of Rowan University) has achieved this status.

As part of the assessment process, CALEA representatives will visit Rutgers University-New Brunswick and seek comments from all members of the Rutgers community during a public information session on Monday, March 27th, at 4:00 p.m. at the Rutgers Visitor Center, 100

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Sutphen Road, Piscataway, NJ. The assessment team also will tour Rutgers University-Newark and Rutgers University-Camden. If individuals cannot attend the public information session but would still like to provide comments to the assessment team, they may do so by calling 848-932-4949 on Monday, March 27, 2017 between 1 and 3 p.m.

Achievement of accreditation demonstrates excellence in the delivery and administration of public safety services. The benefits of accreditation include: greater effectiveness and efficiency in providing services to the university community, augmenting RUPD's ability to prevent and control crime, extending cooperation with other law enforcement entities, and improving staff and employee confidence in the policies and practices of the department.

"CALEA accreditation is considered to be the gold standard for police performance. In the pursuit of excellence, we welcome this high level of scrutiny and accountability, and we look forward to be sharpened in the process," said Chief Kenneth Cop; Executive Director of Public Safety and Chief of University Police at Rutgers.

The CALEA assessment team will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices to evaluate compliance. Once the assessors complete their review, they report back to the full commission, which will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status. If awarded, re-accreditation is for four years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with the standards under which it was initially accredited.

The Rutgers University Police Department is the only police department in New Jersey to be simultaneously accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) and International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA).

Anyone wishing to submit written comments regarding the RUPD's ability to comply with the standards for accreditation may send them to the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, VA 20155.

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