

TO: Editors/ News Directors
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MEDIA RELEASE

SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER EARNS GOLD STANDARD REACCREDITATION

The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Communications Center has again earned international accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), and has received the Gold Standard Accreditation with Excellence Award. In order to achieve CALEA accreditation, the Communications Center of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office is required to demonstrate full compliance with 218 state-of-the-art performance standards. Compliance with the performance standards is verified through a file review and on-site assessment, which is conducted by a team of CALEA certified public safety practitioners. The CALEA accreditation performance standards focus on four areas of responsibility: policy and procedures; administration; operations; and support services.

In order to remain accredited and receive the Accreditation with Excellence Award, the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Communications Center demonstrated the following:

- Excellence in the development and implementation of contemporary policies and procedures.
- Excellence in the ability to use the CALEA accreditation process as a tool for continuous organizational improvement.
- Excellence in the collection, review and analysis of organizational data for the purpose of public safety service improvement.
- Advocacy for CALEA accreditation as a strategy for enhancing the professional standing of public safety.
- Excellence in addressing the intent of CALEA standards, beyond compliance.
- Organizational culture supportive of CALEA accreditation.
- Standards compliance and accreditation process success.



An Internationally Accredited Agency

Committed to Quality Service with an Emphasis on Integrity, Professionalism and Community Spirit.

There are 69 communication centers internationally accredited by CALEA, and only eight (8), including the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, have achieved the highest standard of the Accreditation with Excellence Award.

CALEA was established in 1979 by four major law enforcement membership associations: the National Sheriffs' Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives and the Police Executive Research Forum. CALEA is an independent accrediting authority, responsible for developing the internationally accepted public safety standards, ensuring that the accreditation standards remain consistent with public safety best practices and administering the accreditation process.

According to Arapahoe County Undersheriff Dave Walcher, "The women and men of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office are very proud to have earned this high level of achievement, and it is one of five accreditations currently held by the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office." The Sheriff's Office continues to hold agency-wide accreditation through CALEA, Detention Facility accreditation through the American Correctional Association, Detention Facility medical accreditation through the National Commission on Correctional Health Care and agency-wide accreditation through the County Sheriff's of Colorado/Colorado Chiefs of Police.

For additional information, please contact Undersheriff David Walcher 303-435-3366.

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