



Commission on Accreditation for
Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.
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Mr. Clarence F. Birkhead
Sheriff of Durham County
Durham County Sheriff's Office
510 South Dillard Street 3rd Floor
Durham, NC 27701

Sheriff Birkhead:

CALEA® Accreditation serves as the *International Gold Standard for Public Safety Agencies*. This correspondence serves to recognize the Durham County Sheriff's Office has been awarded Law Enforcement Accreditation effective for the eighth time. This award remains in effect for four years and the agency retains all privileges associated with this status during that period.

The process of CALEA Accreditation begins with a rigorous self-assessment, requiring a review of policies, practices and processes against internationally accepted public safety standards. This is followed with an assessment by independent assessors with significant public safety experience. Additionally, public feedback is received to promote community trust and engagement, and structured interviews are conducted with select agency personnel and others with knowledge to assess the agency's effectiveness and overall service delivery capacities. The decision to accredit is rendered by a governing body of twenty-one Commissioners following a public hearing and review of all reporting documentation.

CALEA Accreditation is a continuous process and serves as the foundation for a successful, well managed, transparent, community-focused public safety agency. To this end, an agency must maintain its accredited status by remaining in compliance with CALEA standards at all times.

CALEA congratulates the Durham County Sheriff's Office for demonstrating a commitment to professional excellence through accreditation. The CALEA Accreditation indices are the *Marks of Professional Excellence* and should be displayed proudly by those that have earned them.

Sincerely,

W. Craig Hartley, Jr.
Executive Director