



BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA RELEASE

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Burlington Police Chief Selected to Serve as Accreditation Commissioner

GAINESVILLE, VA— On September 11, 2017 the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), announced the appointment of four new members of its Board of Commissioners, including Burlington Police Chief Jeffrey Smythe. Chief Smythe's three-year term will begin in January 2018.

CALEA was established in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint efforts of law enforcement's major executive associations for the purpose of improving the delivery of public safety services. The CALEA accreditation program provides public safety agencies an opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate that they meet a nationally accepted set of professional standards, based on industry best practices and approved by an all-volunteer board of commissioners.

The CALEA Board of Commissioners consists of 21 members, 11 of which are law enforcement professionals. The remaining ten commissioners represent both the public and private sectors and include state legislators, city managers, professors and judges. Chief Smythe was selected from among 18,000 eligible Chiefs of Police nationwide.

CALEA Executive Director W. Craig Hartley, Jr. stated, "Chief Smythe brings a wealth of public safety experience to the Board of Commissioners. As a chief of police in two accredited organizations and with over thirty years of law enforcement experience, Chief Smythe understands the value and importance of standards within the industry. He has been involved in the process as an accreditation manager, assessor and executive officer of an organization using the process for continuous improvement. His experience, coupled with engagement in professional associations, such as the Police Executive Research Forum and similar organizations has provided him the requisite background to effectively serve CALEA as a Commissioner."

Of his appointment, Chief Smythe commented, "I am humbled by this selection. I have been policing for 31 years and am eager to have a positive impact on the professional standards of my industry."

City Manager Hardin Watkins commented, "Those who know Chief Smythe know that he is dedicated and committed to professional policing and doing things the right way. The Burlington Police Department exudes professionalism and it is no coincidence that Chief Smythe has been asked to share his wisdom,

guidance, and point of view with a national audience. We are proud that our chief will help determine and evaluate the rigorous standards of police excellence across the country and internationally.”

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Our Mission:

“The Burlington Police Department is committed to improving the quality of life, in partnership with our community, through fair and professional police services.”

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