



POLICE

WILTON MANORS

Paul O'Connell
Chief of Police

Officer Jennifer Bickhardt
Public Information Officer
954-390-2150
954-866-5848 (Cell)
jbickhardt@wmpd.org

PRESS RELEASE

NUMBER	SUBJECT	DATE
2016-008	PUBLIC COMMENTS WELCOMED	03/09/16

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**ACCREDITATION TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS
ABOUT THE WILTON MANORS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

(Wilton Manors, FL) – A team of assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will arrive April 19, 2016 to examine all aspects of the Wilton Manors Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Chief Paul O'Connell announced today. The Wilton Manors Police Department (WMPD) has to comply with approximately 260 standards in order to receive accredited status. Many of the standards are critical to life, health, and safety issues.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency members and the general public are invited to offer comments to the assessment team. A copy of the standards is available through Public Information Officer Jennifer Bickhardt, WMPD at 954-866-5848 or through email at jbickhardt@wmpd.org.

For more information regarding CFA or for persons wishing to offer written comments about the Wilton Manors Police Department's ability to meet the standards of accreditation, please write:

CFA, P.O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302, or email to info@flaccreditation.org.

The Accreditation Program Manager for WMPD is Doug Robertson. According to Robertson, the assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from similar agencies. The assessors will review written materials; interview individuals; and visit offices and other places where compliance can be witnessed. The CFA Assessment Team Leader is Sergeant Nicole Minick of the Collier County Sheriff's Office. Other team members are Commander Chris Willet, Altamonte Springs Police Department and Sergeant Chris Crawford of the Rockledge Police Department.

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 receive accredited status. Wilton Manors accreditation is for 3 years. Verification by the team that WMPD meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to gain or maintain accreditation--a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence, Chief O'Connell said.

###