

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Washington County Sheriff's Office Seeks Reaccreditation Community Feedback is Invited

May 21, 2020

Beginning Wednesday, May 27, 2020, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) will conduct a three-day compliance assessment of the Washington County Sheriff's Office. The team will measure the agency's continued ability to meet public safety standards considered to be benchmarks of excellence nationwide. The Sheriff's Office has been continuously nationally accredited by CALEA since 2004.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sheriff's Office will be among the first agencies to experience a *virtual inspection* format involving video presentations of facilities, a virtual public hearing, and interviews of staff, partner agencies, and community members. As always, Sheriff Pat Garrett invites members of the community to comment on the agency's ability to meet these professional standards. Four options are available for public comments until noon on Friday, May 29, 2020:

**E-mail the assessors.** Effective immediately, you may send written comments for the assessment team to the Accreditation Manager at [sheriff.webmaster@co.washington.or.us](mailto:sheriff.webmaster@co.washington.or.us). Please note "CALEA Comments" in the subject line. All remarks will be shared directly with the assessment team.

**Attend and speak at the virtual public hearing via Zoom.** The Sheriff's Office will host a virtual public hearing on Thursday, May 28, 2020, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. PDT. Those who wish to speak must [register](#) in advance. Comments will be limited to 10 minutes per person. Attendees are encouraged to speak from a prepared statement to ensure best use of their time. If any registered speaker is not available, the facilitator will call the next person in the lineup.

**Speak to an assessor.** Call (503) 846-6307 and provide your name, telephone number, and a preferred time for a call back on Friday, May 29, between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. PDT. Calls will be limited to 10 minutes to allow the assessors to talk to as many people as possible.

**Submit written comments directly to CALEA by mail or online.** Please note "Washington County OR - Sheriff's Office" in the subject line. Send to:

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement, Inc. (CALEA)  
13575 Heathcote Blvd., Suite 320  
Gainesville, Virginia 20155  
E-mail: [www.calea.org/contact-us](http://www.calea.org/contact-us)

For information about the review process or standards, please contact Accreditation Manager Marcy Allie at [sheriff.webmaster@co.washington.or.us](mailto:sheriff.webmaster@co.washington.or.us).



**MEDIA CONTACT: 503-209-5613**  
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