



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Normal Police Department Receives
Reaccreditation Award**

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On July 30, 2017, The Normal Police Department received Advanced Reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. (CALEA), at their national summer conference in Providence, RI. Normal Police Department was also recognized with the “Accreditation with Excellence Award” from the commission because of the agencies ongoing commitment to accreditation and the exemplary onsite evaluation completed by the Commission back on April. Of approximately 100 agencies at the conference, Normal Police Department was one of only 16 agencies to receive the “Accreditation with Excellence Award”. This is the Normal Police Departments eighth reaccreditation award and demonstrates the agencies continued commitment to professional excellence in providing service to the community.

The department successfully received reaccreditation as a result of a “Gold Standard” on-site assessment completed in April of 2017. The assessment was conducted by a team of trained assessors, selected by CALEA from other accredited law enforcement agencies across the country. The Normal Police Department was a candidate for the “Gold Standard” assessment because of our long history of adherence to the CALEA standards and an exemplary record of on-site assessments. This assessment process involved the review of critical department policies but placed special emphasis on interviews with department staff, organizational partners and members of the public to demonstrate compliance with the CALEA standards. The report completed by the assessors was presented to the full commission and reviewed for compliance with CALEA’s strict professional standards. After a thorough review the commission formally granted the department reaccreditation status along with the “Accreditation with Excellence Award”.

Chief Rick Bleichner said “I am extremely proud of the work done by everyone in our organization throughout the reaccreditation process. We could not achieve recognition at this level without the support of the community and the hard work and dedication of all of our staff. The CALEA model is one built on best practices in professional law enforcement and serves as a gold standard in our profession. ”

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