



Lynchburg Sheriff's Office
awarded
Fourth Accreditation Certification
from the
Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission

Sheriff Don Sloan is pleased to announce that the Lynchburg Sheriff's Office continues to be numbered among an elite group of Virginia law enforcement agencies having earned and maintained accreditation status through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC). Of the more than 360 law enforcement agencies in Virginia, only 99 of these have achieved this distinction. The Lynchburg Sheriff's Office was initially accredited in November 2006 and has since earned its third re-accreditation certification in November 2018.

Accreditation is considered the elite measure of professionalism among law enforcement agencies. The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission is governed by an executive board composed of six Sheriff's selected by the Virginia Sheriff's Association and six Chiefs' of Police selected by the Virginia Association of Chiefs' of Police in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). The VLEPSC program of accreditation promulgates a comprehensive set of standards that require compliance with 190 standards and over 700 points of professional practice. These standards are recognized as a "best practices" protocol for all law enforcement agencies.

VLEPSC Accreditation sets the standards by which an agency must continue to operate in order to retain this highly coveted status. These professional standards must become a routine way of conducting Sheriff's Office business. There are required annual compliance verification and reporting, with an on-site re-accreditation assessment scheduled every four years.

The mission of the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission is to advance law enforcement professionalism through the establishment of professional standards and the administration of a formal mechanism by which Virginia agencies can be systematically measured, evaluated, and updated. The Commission goals include: To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia in the delivery of services; To promote cooperation and coordination among all components in the criminal justice system; To ensure the appropriate level of training for law enforcement personnel; To promote public confidence in law enforcement; and To promote the professionalism of law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

To verify compliance, a team of three VLEPSC assessors conducted a two-day, on-site assessment of the sheriff's office in November of 2018. The three members of the assessment team commended the Sheriff and his staff for their community interaction, cooperation with other agencies and their professional assessment noting that no accreditation files were returned for any major or minor repairs, which is the equivalent of earning a perfect score. Sheriff Sloan credited this successful assessment and their agencies interactions within the community to his accreditation team of Cindy Caldwell and Greg Berry and the dedicated and professional men and women of the Lynchburg Sheriff's Office.

On January 24, 2019 at the James City County Law Enforcement Center in Williamsburg, Virginia members of the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission Executive Board voted unanimously in favor of the Lynchburg Sheriff's Office being awarded its fourth VLEPSC Accreditation certification after their review and examination of the sheriff's offices on-site Team leader and his assessment report.

Their website is www.vlepsc.org.