Allan W. Fung Mayor



Colonel Michael J. Winquist Chief of Police

**"A Nationally Accredited Agency" DEPARTMENT OF POLICE** 5 GARFIELD AVENUE CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND 02920 Phone (401) 942-2211 Fax (401) 477-5113

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA<sup>®</sup>) awards National Accreditation to the Cranston Police Department

For Immediate Release

March 31, 2015

**Contact:** 

Colonel Michael J. Winquist Chief of Police (401) 477-5001

Colonel Michael J. Winquist, Chief of the Cranston Police Department, announces National Re-accreditation of the Department by *CALEA*<sup>®</sup>, Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

On March 21, 2015, Colonel Michael Winquist, Major Robert Quirk, Inspector Eric Baccari, and Officer David Boucher appeared before the panel of Commissioners at the annual conference in Reno, Nevada. The hearing before the Commission was the final phase of the re-accreditation process in which the award was officially confirmed.

In November of 2014, the Department participated in an on-site assessment by a *CALEA*<sup>®</sup> Assessment Team from Ohio and New York to complete an in depth review of all policies, procedures, and departmental operations. The accreditation process is intensive and opens the department up to intense scrutiny by an outside, independent organization.

> 5 Garfield Avenue • Cranston, RI 02920 - 4047 Phone (401) 942-2211• Fax (401) 401-477-5113

Page 2 March 31, 2015

The Commission was highly complimentary of the Department and its personnel and noted the perseverance displayed by the rank and file members of the Department in the face of the many challenges they encountered since first being accredited in 2012.

In addition to achieving national accreditation, the Department was recently notified by Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission (RIPAC) that the Department's State Accreditation status has been fully restored and is now considered to be in "good standing".

In earning the distinction of achieving both state and national law enforcement accreditation, the Department joins a limited number of distinguished law enforcements agencies in the country. This award would not have been possible without the combined effort and commitment of each and every member of the Department, both sworn and civilian alike.

Colonel Winquist stated, "This award is a considerable milestone for the Cranston Police Department, especially at this point in the Department's history. I consider myself truly fortunate to lead the Cranston Police Department and serve with such great, dedicated men and women. I am grateful for the enormous amount of support received daily from the community and our law enforcement partners which was critical to our success in achieving this great honor. This award is validation that the members of the Cranston Police Department follow the best practices in modern law enforcement. We will continue to strive for excellence each and every day to provide the highest level of police services to the citizens, business owners and visitors of our City."

Mayor Allan Fung stated, "On behalf of the residents of Cranston, I commend the men and women of the Cranston Police Department on earning re-accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA®). The award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our officers to carry out their duties in the most professional and efficient manner possible. This recognition cements our department as following the best practices, procedures and operations in our day to day operations."

###

5 Garfield Avenue • Cranston, RI 02920 - 4047 Phone (401) 942-2211• Fax (401) 401-477-5113