



# Ft. Pierce Police Department News Release



11.05.07

**R. Sean Baldwin**

*Chief of Police*

920 S. U.S. #1

Ft. Pierce, FL 34950

## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ACCREDITATION TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ABOUT THE FORT PIERCE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**FORT PIERCE** – Chief R. Sean Baldwin announces that a team of three assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will arrive on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, for a three-day assessment to examine all aspects of the Fort Pierce Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services.

The Fort Pierce Police Department is required to comply with approximately 259 standards in order to receive accredited status. Many of these 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. The public may call (772) 468-7153 on Thursday, December 13, 2007, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Telephone comments are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CFA standards. A copy of the standards is available through the Fort Pierce Police Department's Accreditation Manager, Lieutenant Christopher Bender, at (772) 468-1805 ext. 5235, or the Commission's website at:

<http://www.flaccreditation.org/CFA%20Standards%20Manual%20Fourth%20Edition%204%2000%2010.pdf>

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

**Zoi Marquez**  
**Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation**  
**3504 Lake Lynda Drive, Suite 380**  
**Orlando, FL 32817**

Lt. Bender said, "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 Lieutenant Mike Cochran with the Lauderhill Police Department. Other team members are Debbie Gailbreath with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, and Luanne Smith-Horton with the Coral Springs 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. Upon Commission approval, the Fort Pierce Police Department's accreditation is for three (3) years.

"Verification by the team that the Fort Pierce Police Department meets the Commission's Standards is part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation – a highly respected recognition of law enforcement professional excellence. It's extremely important to our department and the entire community," said Chief Baldwin

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