A team of assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will arrive July 12, 2018 to examine specific aspects of the St. Petersburg Police Department’s policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services.

The Department has been state accredited since 2003, and has been reaccredited every three years. Because the agency is already nationally accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), the Department has to comply with 89 additional Florida-based standards in order to receive state reaccredited status. A copy of the standards is available for review at:

http://www.flaccreditation.org/docs/standards/CFA%20Comparative%20Compliance%20Edition%205.06%20to%20CALEA%205.0%20February%202018.pdf.

For more information regarding CFA or for persons wishing to offer written comments about the St. Petersburg Police Department’s ability to meet the standards of accreditation, please write: CFA, P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL 32302.

The assessment team is composed of Florida law enforcement practitioners from similar agencies. The assessors will review written materials; interview individuals; and visit offices and other places where compliance can be observed. The CFA Assessment Team Leader is Master Police Officer Eric Wels of the Altamonte Springs Police Department. The Accreditation Program Manager for the St. Petersburg Police Department is Deborah M. Furka.

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 reaccreditation status. Verification by the team that the St. Petersburg Police Department meets the Commission’s standards is part of a voluntary process to gain or maintain accreditation and is considered a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.