



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2017

LaGrange Police Department Presented CALEA Accreditation for 7th Time

LaGrange, Ga. November 15, 2017 – The LaGrange Police Department received its official CALEA accreditation at the LaGrange City Council meeting Tuesday night.



Bart Connelly, A CALEA Board Member and retired Cape Coral Police Chief, presented the award to LaGrange Police Chief Lou Dekmar, Accreditation Manager Sgt. Karen Sanders, and Mayor Jim Thornton.

This is the 7th time the LaGrange Police Department has received the accreditation.

The department also achieved the accreditation with excellence award.

Chief Louis Dekmar is proud of the achievement. “There are 18,000 law enforcement agencies across the country and less than 1,000 receive

accreditation. Of those 1,000 agencies, only 10% of those receive the accreditation of excellence.”

The LaGrange Police Department first received accreditation in July 1999. Since then, every three years the department consistently received the honor in 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, and now in 2017.

To receive the CALEA Accreditation, the agency must demonstrate a commitment to professional excellence in policy and practice. The accreditation is accomplished through a highly regarded and broadly recognized body of professional standards.

The honor is for four years and the agency is required to maintain continuous compliance during the time period.

Pictured from left to right: CALEA Board Member Chief Bart Connelly, Accreditation Manager Sgt. Karen Sanders, LaGrange Police Chief Lou Dekmar, and Mayor Jim Thornton

Media Contact: Accreditation Manager Sgt. Karen Sanders, LaGrange Police (706) 883-2678 or ksanders@lagrange.org

For more information on CALEA, go to www.calea.org.

To keep up with the latest news involving the City of LaGrange, go to www.lagrangega.org or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/lagrangegov, Twitter at [@lagrangegov](https://twitter.com/lagrangegov), & Instagram at instagram.com/cityoflagrangega.

###