



# TARPON SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA RELEASE

*"Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing"*

**Robert P. Kochen**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

Date: October 2, 2015

Time: 12:00pm

Contact: Major Jeff Young (Phone #):727-938-2849

## **ACCREDITATION TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ABOUT THE TARPON SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

A team of assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will arrive December 1, 2015 to examine all aspects of the Tarpon Springs Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Chief Robert Kochen announced today. Tarpon Springs Police Department has to comply with approximately 260 standards in order to receive accredited status. Many of the 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. A copy of the standards are available through Major Jeff Young, Public Information Officer for Tarpon Springs Police Department at 727-938-2849.

For more information regarding CFA or for persons wishing to offer written comments about the Tarpon Springs Police Department's ability to meet the standards of accreditation, please write: CFA, P.O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302, or email to [info@flaccreditation.org](mailto:info@flaccreditation.org).

The Accreditation Program Manager for Tarpon Springs Police Department is Deborah Moody. She 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 Sergeant Areka Jewell from Key West Police Department and other team members are Mr. Peter Loomis retired from Maitland Police Department and Ms. Wendy Dorival from Sanford 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. Tarpon Springs Police Department's accreditation is for 3 years. Verification by the team that Tarpon Springs meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to maintain accreditation--a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.



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