

For Immediate Release

Captain Neil Weaver Government and Media Relations

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<u>Public is Invited to Participate in National Accreditation Process</u> for Washington State Patrol

Olympia, WA - The Washington State Patrol is scheduled for an on-site assessment as part of its annual national accreditation for professional standards in law enforcement. Public comment is an important part of this rigorous assessment process.

Administered by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), the accreditation program requires law enforcement agencies to comply with state-of-the-art standards in four basic areas: policy and procedures, administration, operations, and support services.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to take part in two public information sessions where comments will be taken by the assessment team:

- **Call-In Session:** On November 4, 2019, between the hours of 3:00pm 5:00pm, agency employees and the public can offer comments by calling 1-800-777-3895.
- **Public Hearing Session:** On November 5, 2019, between the hours of 3:30pm 5:30pm, agency employees and the public can offer comments in person at the Helen Sommers Building Conference Room 1015 at 106 11th Ave SW Olympia, Washington 98504.

Comments at either public information session are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. Information about the standards and the process is available at the Helen Sommers Building. The local contact is Ms. Lila Kirkeby at (360) 596-4141.

Anyone wishing to submit written comments about the Washington State Patrol's ability to comply with the standards for accreditation may send them to the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement, Inc. (CALEA), 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, Virginia 20155 or www.calea.org."