



News Release

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Major Public Safety Honor for the Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center

The [Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center](#) is now a certified Public Safety Communications Agency after receiving the distinction from the [Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies \(CALEA\)](#) on Nov. 22, 2014.

The purpose of CALEA's Accreditation Programs is to improve the delivery of public safety services, primarily by: maintaining a body of standards, developed by public safety practitioners, covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives; establishing and administering an accreditation process; and recognizing professional excellence.



"Accreditations like this are a great opportunity to see where our agency is on a national level and show the public just how hard we are working to provide the best service possible," said Consolidated 9-1-1 Center Director Jim Lake.

"I challenge all of our departments to emphasize and achieve excellence every day. This honor proves that the creation of the Consolidated 911 Center was a brilliant decision by Charleston County Council and that our people have carried out the plan in a first-class way," said [Charleston County Administrator Kurt Taylor](#).

CALEA was created in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint efforts of law enforcement's major executive associations:

- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP);
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE);
- National Sheriffs' Association (NSA); and the
- Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).

The CALEA accreditation program provides public safety communications agencies the opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate that they meet an established set of professional standards and facilitate an agency's pursuit of professional excellence.

The Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center is also accredited by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch. They are the 24th center to be accredited for their Emergency Fire Dispatch and the 171st to be accredited for their Emergency Medical Dispatch programs.

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- written by Shawn Smetana -