



CALEA's Response to President Biden's Executive Order to Advance Effective, Accountable Policing and Strengthen Public Safety

Later today, President Biden plans to sign an Executive Order aimed at putting new limits on federal law enforcement. According to the White House, the President's Executive Order will "enhance public trust by promoting accountability, transparency, and the principles of equality and dignity in policing and the larger criminal justice system."

For more than four decades, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®) has written, revised, updated, and promulgated standards developed for public safety agencies to use as a foundation and guide to ensure accountability and transparency, as well as equality and dignity within their ranks and the communities they serve. CALEA® maintains an organizational structure and position within the public safety professional community to ensure its standards are unadulterated and reviews of agencies are predicated on objective evaluations of policies, procedures, and practices.

The concept of accreditation allows organizations to voluntarily participate in associated programming to demonstrate compliance with established standards, ranging from operational to administrative duties and responsibilities. The standards also take into consideration the need for progressive and ongoing training, review of tactical and investigatory strategies, the administration of sound and objective-driven hiring and retention practices, and the collection of relevant data for effective decision-making regarding organizational resources and the strategic delivery of services.

Public safety agencies that participate in CALEA® Accreditation are steadfastly focused on the constitutionally anchored administration of services and judicially recognized due process. They use the established

model to promote accountability to their entire service communities, to include victims, witnesses, criminal suspects, and anyone they interact with because of their oaths of office. CALEA® Accredited agencies recognize the importance of perpetual evaluation and apply the concept of continuous improvement as an organizational attribute.

Some key points from the executive order:

- require federal law enforcement to review and revise policies on use of force
- encourage tightened restrictions on chokeholds and no-knock warrants at the state and local levels
- establish new hiring and data collection guidelines
- restrict transfer of most military equipment to police departments

[Link to full White House Fact Sheet.](#)

Although the President's Executive Order clearly strives to bring awareness to the importance of professional service delivery within the law enforcement domain, the issues denoted are already components of the CALEA® Accreditation model. And agencies holding the coveted accreditation status from CALEA have demonstrated compliance with these concepts in policy and practice.

The President's Executive Order speaks to accreditation directly. It is important to point out that CALEA® Accreditation and the agencies who have achieved it have had "policies consistent with those of the EO..." and CALEA has always conducted "independent assessments of agency compliance rather than rely on the agency's self-certification."

CALEA is proud of the efforts of its agencies as they lead the industry in setting the standard for others to follow and invite other public safety agencies to take the challenge through the application of our programming.

Tried and true, time-tested standards exist through CALEA® Accreditation, the Gold Standard in Public Safety Accreditation. Furthermore, CALEA Standards are driven only by a constant and continuous focus on professional excellence, effective resource management and the need to fairly protect communities and those public safety personnel providing services.

Key data points collected by CALEA Accredited Agencies:

Traffic Warning & Citations
Biased Policing
Use of Force
Grievances

Personnel Actions
Complaints and Internal Affairs
Calls For Service
Motor Vehicle Pursuit

Agency Breakdown
Demographics
Sworn Officer Selection
Sworn Officer Promotions