State of South Carolina **Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services**

HENRY McMASTER



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March 15, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services <u>Achieves Dual Accreditation</u>

Columbia, SC- The South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (SCDPPPS) completed the State Accreditation process and received its initial accreditation award from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. (SCLEA) on March 5, 2021. Having achieved national accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) on July 28, 2018, this state-level award makes SCDPPPS dually-accredited – an achievement attained by only one other state cabinet-level law enforcement agency.

"This accomplishment demonstrates the exceptional work ethic and proficiency of the SCDPPPS staff. SCDPPPS will strive to dutifully function to uphold the high standards SCLEA has set for its member organizations," said SCDPPPS Director Jerry Adger.

In order to receive SCLEA accreditation, SCDPPPS had to demonstrate compliance of all applicable CALEA standards as well as an additional 12 state-specific standards, including:

- Compliance with state law requiring the issuance of Public Contact Warnings for all vehicle stops (§56-5-65-60)
- Conducting a Citizen Survey to evaluate public opinion of the Department and its staff
- Compliance with state law requiring annual Domestic Violence Training for all Class 1 certified Law Enforcement Agents (§23-23-50)

Law enforcement accreditation programs are designed to assist agencies in implementing standards that are reflective of best practices for professional law enforcement agencies. These programs enable and encourage SCDPPS to continually adhere to these standards, thereby enhancing service delivery, establishing a proven system for agency management, and reducing liability for the agency and its members.

Both state and national law enforcement accreditation are voluntary programs, participation in which displays evidence of an agency's commitment to excellence in leadership, resource management, and service delivery. South Carolina has a total of 35 law enforcement agencies accredited through CALEA, 18 of whom are also state-level accredited through SCLEA.

Accreditation through SCLEA is valid for three years. The Department will also be reviewed for reaccreditation by CALEA in 2022.

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