





Left to right, Monmouth County officials Freeholder Gary Rich, Police Academy Director Darryl Breckenridge, Prosecutor Christopher Gramiccioni, Freeholder Director Lillian Burry, Freeholder John Curley, Sheriff Shaun Golden, Freeholder Serena DiMaso, and Freeholder Thomas Arnone.

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Monmouth County Sheriff's Office Receives CALEA TRI-ARC Award

The Monmouth County (New Jersey) Sheriff's Office (MCSO) recently achieved re-accreditation for its Law Enforcement Division, re-accreditation for its Communications Division, and first-time accreditation for the Monmouth County Police Academy from the Commission for Accreditation in Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The office was subsequently recognized with a TRI-ARC Award for attaining accreditation simultaneously in all three areas at the 2016 CALEA Conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

MCSO first received CALEA accreditation for Law Enforcement in 1998, and for its Communications Division in 2001. The office also achieved ACA Correctional Accreditation and National Commission on Correctional Health Care Accreditation for the Monmouth County Correctional Institution in 2001. All accreditations have been successfully maintained since being awarded, and MCSO became the first sheriff's office in New Jersey and only the 17th in the nation to receive the NSA's Triple Crown Award.

MCSO took advantage of a unique opportunity in late 2015: Its Communications Division was due for re-accreditation, and the Law Enforcement Division was up again shortly after. CALEA's Law Enforcement and Public Safety Training Academy accreditations share 83 standards, so the office decided to pursue CALEA accreditation for the Monmouth County Police Academy, too.

MCSO placed personnel in key positions to meet CALEA requirements in a timely manner, assigning sheriff's personnel to leadership positions at the police academy to cover vacancies. Executive Undersheriff Ted Freeman was appointed interim director of the Monmouth County Police, with Capt. David Finck, a 28-year veteran of the MCSO and an experienced accreditation manager, as executive officer. Retired Police Chief Darryl Breckenridge became administrative training officer, and retired police officer John Fay and retired FBI Special Agent Dan McKenna served as training officers.

Sgt. Denise Palmisano, Law Enforcement Division accreditation manager, worked diligently to ensure that compliance was maintained under CALEA standards, while other staffers coordinated the preparation and submission of proofs due for assessment in July 2016. On Nov. 5, 2016, MCSO accepted its official CALEA re-accreditation plaques. At the time, it was the first law enforcement agency in New Jersey to receive a CALEA TRI-ARC Award and the 16th in the nation to achieve that distinction. Its police academy is the first in New Jersey to receive CALEA accreditation as a Public Safety Training Academy.

Achieving and maintaining accreditation is an unending journey, MCSO says, quoting tennis great Arthur Ashe in a release: "Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is often more important than the outcome."