



Division of Capitol Police News Release

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Capitol Police earn VLEPSC distinction for 4 more years

RICHMOND -- The Virginia Division of Capitol Police has again distinguished itself among law enforcement agencies in the state by being fully reaccredited for another four years by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission.

Capitol Police, one of less than 20 percent of law enforcement agencies in Virginia to be accredited by either state or national assessment bodies, was awarded its latest accreditation Thursday at a meeting in which VLEPSC described the division as "professional and well-run."

The VLEPSC assessment team based its findings on a multi-day visit to the Capitol in late March in which the division was judged to be in full compliance with nearly 200 applicable standards.

"We open our books and our operation to the assessment team," said Col. Anthony S. Pike, the Capitol Police chief. "All questions must be answered to the satisfaction of the commission in the areas of administration, operations, personnel and training."

Pike said Capitol Police "take particular pride in having earned the respect of the commission over the years, and we will work hard to continue to foster that type of cooperative environment. It's vital to us that we

demonstrate to our stakeholders that we hold ourselves to high standards, and I can't think of a better way to do that than through continuing to follow the VLEPSC accreditation path."

Capitol Police first earned VLEPSC accreditation in 2010 and were reaccredited in 2014 and 2018. Beyond the on-site inspection by the VLEPSC team, Capitol Police conduct what amount to regular self-assessments to make sure the division is in compliance with the commission's standards for efficient and effective agency operation.

In addition to outlining specific measures designed to foster long-term success in police agencies, the VLEPSC standards can serve as a daily checklist.

"Since I joined Capitol Police in 2011, we have had employees dedicated to making sure we stay on the right track in terms of accepted practices," Pike said. "That kind of attention to detail sets us up for not only professional growth but public trust, and that's exactly what our stakeholders deserve."



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