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## **MUPD receives reaccreditation through national authority**

*Reaccreditation ensures the MU Police Department maintains its commitment to excellence, professionalism and training to keep the campus community safe*

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At the November [2019 Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies \(CALEA\)](#) conference, the University of Missouri Police Department (MUPD) was reaccredited for the seventh time.

The CALEA accreditation is considered “the gold standard in public safety,” and its program seals are reserved for public safety agencies that demonstrate compliance with strict standards. Accreditation status lasts four years.

“Being reaccredited for the seventh time shows our department’s strong commitment to maintaining excellence and professionalism,” said Chief Doug Schwandt of the MU police department. “It also assures that our policies and procedures are on the cutting edge of best practices in law enforcement.”

MUPD received Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation with Excellence, which is specifically designed for elite organizations striving to demonstrate professional excellence within a comprehensive range of operational and administrative responsibilities. Additionally — with the department being accredited for 15 years or more — MUPD was recognized as a Meritorious Agency.

Timothy Baysinger, a regional program manager for CALEA, said MUPD’s efforts to maintain its advanced level of accreditation demonstrates a commitment to follow the highest standards in delivering public safety services.

“Accreditation awards with excellence are bestowed upon agencies that consistently embrace the principles of CALEA accreditation,” he said. “Not unlike the academic accreditation maintained by the university, CALEA accreditation is an arduous process that supports professionalism, integrity and community involvement.”

Gary Ward, vice chancellor for MU Operations, said it’s important to Mizzou that MUPD maintain the highest quality standards among sworn officers nationally.

“The level of professionalism by MUPD officers is something everyone at MU should commend,” he said.

MUPD also is accredited through [The International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators](#) (IACLEA) and is in the final stages of the reaccreditation process with that organization.

MUPD is among eight university law enforcement departments in the SEC accredited by CALEA and of those, only five are accredited through both CALEA and IACLEA: MUPD and those departments affiliated with University of Florida, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee and Vanderbilt University. MUPD is the only university police department in Missouri accredited through both accrediting authorities.