

## PRESS RELEASE

## ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

On July 13th and 14<sup>th</sup>, a team of assessors from the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MSLEAC) will be conducting an on-site assessment at the *Oktibbeha County Sheriff's* Department to ensure compliance with the Mississippi State Standards. Law enforcement agencies seeking to be accredited by MSLEAC are required to comply with 138 professional standards in order to achieve state accredited status.

The MSLEAC assessment team will be composed of law enforcement practitioners from in-state agencies. The assessors will review agency policies and practices, interview personnel, and closely examine files kept by the *Oktibbeha County Sheriff's* Department specifically in regard to state accreditation. As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments regarding The *Oktibbeha County Sheriff's* Department by telephone. This will occur on *Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>* from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. All those interested in participating are directed to call 662-323-0448 during the times noted above. Telephone comments are limited to 10 minutes and must directly address the *Oktibbeha County Sheriff's* Department's ability to comply with MSLEAC standards.

Once the assessors complete their review, a report will be issued to the state commission, who will then decide whether or not to award accreditation.

Individuals wishing to offer written comments about the *Oktibbeha County Sheriff's* Department's ability to meet the standards for state accreditation are requested to write:

Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission Attn: Accreditation Alliance Manager 3750 I-55 North Frontage Road Jackson, MS 39211

For more information regarding the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, please write the MSLEAC at the address above or call (601) 987-3092. For more information regarding the *Oktibbeha County Sheriff's* Department's accreditation effort, please call *Sheriff Steve Gladney or Chief Deputy Chadd Garnett* at 662-323-2421.