



TEMPLE TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOCK ASSESSMENT A PRELUDE TO ACCREDITATION

(TEMPLE TERRACE, FL – 12/15/10) – The Temple Terrace Police Department will participate in a three-day *Mock Assessment* exercise in January as part of the department's quest for accreditation.

Three assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. will visit the department Jan. 12-14, 2011, where they will conduct interviews, inspect records, study procedures and protocols, ride with police officers and complete other activities, said Cpl. Mike Hensel, accreditation manager for the Temple Terrace Police Department.

The mock assessment is a prelude to the final assessment in March that will determine whether the department meets the qualifications and standards for statewide accreditation, Hensel said. The mock assessment is intended to uncover any areas that might need attention or improvement before the final assessment, he said.

"They'll go over everything with a fine-tooth comb," Hensel said. "They have a set of standards that we have to meet."

Accreditation establishes a framework for police departments to maximize efficiency, provide standards of excellence, streamline performance and reduce liability. It assures a community that its police department performs at the highest level of professionalism.

Achieving accreditation isn't easy, Hensel noted.

"It's a very entailed process," he said. "There's a lot of work involved."

Once the final assessment is completed in March, Hensel said, the Commission will meet in Orlando in June to vote on whether to issue the Temple Terrace Police Department a *Certificate of Accreditation*.

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