



Neal Rossow

Training has become a challenge with the issue of COVID-19 and we are trying our best to continue to offer training opportunities and conferences in the future.

A lot has been happening with professional development and the accreditation program since my last article.

There were five new agencies that received their official accreditation award from the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission at their February meeting during the Winter Professional Development Conference. Congratulations to these five agencies for their hard work and dedication to the improvement in the delivery of police services to their communities and to Michigan.

- Bloomfield Township Police Department
- East Grand Rapids Department of Public Safety
- Howell Police Department
- Meridian Township Police Department
- Midland Police Department

They have shown their commitment to EXCELLENCE! Chief Phil Langmeyer, Bloomfield Township Police Department, said about the value of the program, “Every employee assisted in the accreditation process. They all stepped up to ensure the new directives and procedures were implemented in the best way possible because they knew accreditation was a way for us to confirm we were doing things the right way. This process proved to our community that they have an exceptional police force, here to serve them.”

There are currently 24 agencies that have reached full accredited status in just over three years. In addition, there are over 30 agencies involved in self-analysis status working on their first accreditation. Since there have been around 200 agencies represented at the accreditation manager trainings, I believe there are numerous departments “getting ready to get ready,” as I call it. The real work actually begins and becomes a priority when you officially sign up for the program and get the “clock” ticking.

The MLEAC Standards Manual Edition 3.2 was published at the end of March 2020. Both the edition on PowerDMS as well as on the MACP website have been updated. The new edition contains the following changes:

- Standard 2.1.6 – Critical Incident Stress **NEW**
- Standard 3.3.5 – National Use of Force Data Collection **NEW**
- Standard 3.5.9 – Police Canines **NEW**
- Standard 4.4.1(j) Juvenile Delinquency – Amended to clarify required reporting.

Training has become a challenge with the issue of COVID-19 and we are trying our best to continue to offer training opportunities and conferences in the future. Our Accreditation Manager Training course scheduled for March 26th was presented as a webinar and, while there were some bugs, it was successful. We do not want that to be the normal way of delivering our training, however, it was a viable solution given the present situation in which we currently find ourselves.

Our upcoming training schedule remains tentative. The 2nd Annual Fall Accreditation Conference is currently scheduled for September 15-16, 2020, in Mt. Pleasant. Registration is now open on our home page and I will be requesting training suggestions at that time. The fall edition of the Police Executives’ and New Chiefs’ School is scheduled to be held November 2-6, 2020 at the Henry Center in Lansing.

On a final note, I want to thank all of you out there still manning the wall that separates order from chaos: *Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I. Send me!” (Isiah 6:8)*

I am honored to be part of a profession that gives its all selflessly in critical times like this. Stay safe! 🇺🇸