



# City of Norman, OK

Municipal Building  
Council Chambers  
201 West Gray  
Norman, OK 73069

## Master

**File Number: GID-1617-25**

**File ID:** GID-1617-25

**Type:** Award

**Status:** Consent Item

**Version:** 1

**Reference:** Item 4

**In Control:** City Council

**Department:** Police Department

**Cost:**

**File Created:** 09/14/2016

**File Name:** Norman Police Accreditation Award

**Final Action:**

**Title:** PRESENTATION OF AN AWARD FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT RE-ACCREDITATION TO THE NORMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE.

**Notes:** ACTION NEEDED: Motion to acknowledge Law Enforcement Re-Accreditation from the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police to the Norman Police Department.

ACTION TAKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agenda Date:** 10/11/2016

**Agenda Number:** 4

### Attachments:

**Project Manager:** John Stege, Professional Standardss

**Entered by:** ellen.usry@normanoik.gov

**Effective Date:**

### History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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### Text of Legislative File GID-1617-25

Body

**BACKGROUND:** The concept of law enforcement accreditation began in the 1970's with a goal to instill professionalism into every phase of police service. Law enforcement accreditation mirrors similar programs in education, medical and other professional disciplines.

In 1995, the Oklahoma District Attorneys' Council awarded a grant to the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police to create and implement an Oklahoma law enforcement agency accreditation program. A committee comprised of representatives from state, county and municipal law enforcement, judges, municipal assurance attorneys and the Fraternal Order of Police reviewed other accreditation structures and officially implemented the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation and Professional Standards Program in 1996.

In 1997, the Norman Police Department began a long and arduous process to achieve accredited status. In September 1999, a team of law enforcement administrators conducted a comprehensive three day on-site assessment. The assessors inspected every aspect of the Department by reviewing accreditation standard files, conducting patrol ride-alongs, attending department meetings and interviewing employees and citizens. Following that process, the Norman Police Department was granted accredited status. In doing so, they became the first municipal agency in Oklahoma to be accredited under this new program. This most recent assessment was conducted after a year-long transition to a new policy manual that is based on a new system

designed to bring the agency into better compliance with Federal and state laws and court findings as well as national and regional policing standards. The transition allows the agency to be more transparent by ultimately publishing the manual online. While all agencies in Oklahoma are looking at this same system, the Norman Police Department is not only the first agency to complete the transition, but is also the first agency to be accredited under the new system.

The benefits of accreditation include but are not limited to more efficient and effective delivery of police services to the community, improved community partnerships, decreased susceptibility to litigation, enhanced comprehension of agency policies and procedures by all personnel, better operational effectiveness, and independent confirmation that rigorous professional standards are maintained.

**DISCUSSION:** As a requirement to retain accredited status, an assessment team conducts an on-site re-assessment every four years. The assessors again scrutinize all components of the Department's operations as they pertain to the accreditation standards. A four member team conducted the fifth re-assessment site visit for two days in early July. Following a review by the Accreditation Commission, the assessment report was forwarded to the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police Executive Board for determination. The OACP Executive Board granted continued accredited status to the Norman Police Department on September 15, 2016.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the Council recognize the Norman Police Department for achieving and maintaining accredited status from the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police by permitting the award to be presented at the October 11, 2016, [City Council Meeting](#).