

Accreditation Certificate Presentation—Franklin Lakes Police Department

*Excerpts from presentation of Accreditation Certificate by
at the November 20, 2018 Mayor and Council meeting*

Accreditation status represents a significant professional achievement.

Accreditation

- 200 Police departments accredited; 39%- reaccredited; 8% 2nd reaccreditation; 0.019% 3rd accreditation; 3 State/Nationally Accredited
- Accreditation is Process! The foundation of Accreditation lies in the adoption of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives.
- Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping law enforcement agencies calculate and improve their overall performances.
- It is the certification by an independent reviewing authority, the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police that the accredited agency was carefully measured against an established set of state and national standards and has met or exceeded accepted practices in the field of law enforcement.
- Research shows that accredited agencies have 11% fewer police professional liability claims, 18% fewer worker compensation claims, and 31% fewer auto liability claims.
- Moreover, municipalities that participate in a MEL affiliated Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) stand to receive substantial insurance premium discounts when their police department attains accreditation.

In addition to these fiscal advantages, there are other important benefits of accreditation:

- Accredited agencies are better able to defend against lawsuits and citizens' complaints.
- Accreditation provides objective evidence of an agency's commitment to excellence in leadership, resource management, and service delivery.
- Government officials can be more confident in the agency's ability to operate efficiently and meet community needs.
- Accreditation embodies the precepts of community oriented policing. It creates a forum in which police and citizens work together to prevent and control challenges confronting law enforcement and provides clear direction about community expectations.
- Accreditation standards give the Chief a proven management system of written directives, sound training, clearly defined lines of authority, and routine reports that support decision making and resource allocation.
- Officers in accredited agencies are able to take pride that they have been objectively recognized for their professionalism and adherence to the highest standards.

Exemplary performance

The Franklin Lakes Police Department, under the direction of Chief Carmen Pezzuti, is a professional organization with disciplined and well trained personnel. The agency has a strong organizational cultural. In addition, as an accredited agency they now adhere to national and state best practices. Their leadership is progressive and forward-thinking. A high level of competence is evident within the agency.

Chief Carmen Pezzuti places a high priority on providing the best, highest-quality service to members of the community. The agency is dedicated to managing its resources in a careful and efficient. In the wake of all the recent school shootings throughout the nation, a renewed focus on school security and target hardening is necessary and appropriate. The Franklin Lakes Police Department remains dedicated to protecting their children, and will continue to work closely with school administrators and security personnel to assure their safety.

No issues found! Remarkable.

It is the opinion of the assessment team that the Franklin Lakes Police Department is a highly professional and committed agency which exemplifies all of the tenets of Law Enforcement Accreditation at the state and national level.

Therefore, the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police and the New Jersey Law Enforcement Commission congratulate Chief Carmen Pezzuti, Accreditation Manager Lieutenant Robert Lyon, the members of the Franklin Lakes Police Department, the Mayor and Council, and those citizens they so proudly serve for achieving their accreditation, joining a very exclusive group of law enforcement agencies that have made this important commitment to excellence in policing. Congratulations!