December 16, 2020

Dear Chief Abbott:

On behalf of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®), this letter confirms we are certifying that West Orange NJ Police Department meets certain eligibility requirements, set forth by the U.S. Department of Justice, for discretionary federal grants. The West Orange NJ Police Department is qualified to receive federal grants for three years from the date of this letter.

Pursuant to Section 2 of the Presidential Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, dated June 16, 2020, Executive Order No. 13929 (the “Executive Order on Safe Policing”), the U.S. Department of Justice’s discretionary grant funding is only available to state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies that have obtained (or are in the process of seeking) credentials certifying that they meet certain standards on use of force. The Executive Order on Safe Policing empowers the U.S. Attorney General to designate independent credentialing bodies — including the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®) — to certify that a law enforcement agency meets the conditions of eligibility for federal grants.

As a designated certifying authority, CALEA® has taken the following actions to determine the West Orange NJ Police Department’s eligibility for certification:

- Confirmed receipt of West Orange NJ statement of declaration attesting that the West Orange NJ Police Department maintains use of force policies that adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws; fulfilling the DOJ’s first Standard of Certification.
- Reviewed the West Orange NJ Police Department’s compliance with CALEA® Standard 4.1.7 Choke Holds which prohibits the use of Choke Holds; fulfilling the DOJ’s second Standard of Certification.
  - **4.1.7 Choke Holds** A written directive prohibits the use of any technique restricting the intake of oxygen for the purpose of gaining control of a subject unless deadly force would be considered reasonable.
- In addition, CALEA has reviewed all agency policies relevant to CALEA’s Use of Force standards as they relate to applicable federal law and Constitutional authority.
  - **4.1.1 Use of Reasonable Force**
  - **4.1.2 Use of Deadly Force**
4.1.3 Warning Shots
4.1.4 Use of Authorized Less Lethal Weapons
4.1.5 Rendering Medical Aid Following Police Actions
4.1.6 Vascular Neck Restrictions
4.1.7 Choke Holds
4.2.1 Reporting Uses of Force
4.2.2 Written Use of Force Reports and Administrative Review
4.2.3 Operational Assignment
4.2.4 Analyze Reports from Use of Force
4.2.5 Assault on Sworn Officer Review
4.3.1 Authorization: Weapons and Ammunition
4.3.2 Demonstrating Proficiency with Weapons
4.3.3 Annual/Biennial Proficiency Training
4.3.4 Prerequisites to carrying lethal / less lethal weapons
4.3.5 Firearms Range

Following our review, CALEA has determined that the West Orange NJ Police Department meets the conditions for certification. Accordingly, if the West Orange NJ Police Department maintains its current status, CALEA will include your agency going forward within our database of certified law enforcement agencies. On or before January 31st each year, we will provide the name of each certified law enforcement agency to the U.S. Department of Justice.

If you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me either by email at chartley@calea.org or by phone at 703.352.4225.

Sincerely,

W. Craig Hartley, Jr.
Executive Director, CALEA