

**PRESS RELEASE**

**11/14/2007**

**For immediate release.**

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## **Burlington Police Prepare for Upcoming Accreditation Assessment**

Chief Francis Hart is pleased to announce that a team of assessors from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission, Inc. is scheduled to evaluate the police department on Monday, December 3, 2007, by examining various aspects of the Burlington Police Department's policies and procedures, operations and facilities.

Verification by the assessment team that the Burlington Police Department meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to gain state accreditation. Accreditation is a self-initiated evaluation process by which police departments strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established *for* the profession, *by* the profession.

The accreditation program consists of 253 mandatory standards and 122 optional standards. In order to achieve accreditation status, the department must meet 100 % of applicable mandatory standards as well as 65 % of the optional standards.

Achieving accreditation is a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence. Anyone interested in learning more about this program may call Chief Francis Hart or the department's Accreditation Manager, Captain Carleton Boutwell at (781) 505-4920.

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