The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. (CFA) met on September 27, 2012 to review agencies for accredited status and conduct general business.

The main order of business was to acknowledge the professionalism of agencies through granting accreditation. The Hendry County Sheriff’s Office and the Kissimmee Police Department were awarded initial accreditation. Thirteen agencies were reaccredited by the Commission at this meeting: The Department of Children and Families Office of Inspector General, the Department of Environmental Protection Office of Inspector General, the Bradenton Police Department, Satellite Beach Police Department, University of South Florida Police Department, St. Petersburg Police Department, Venice Police Department, Winter Springs Police Department, Surfside Police Department, Sanford Police Department, Monroe County Sheriff’s Office, Putnam County Sheriff’s Office, and Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office. The Orlando Police Department was awarded reaccreditation by the Commission with recognition as an Excelsior Agency.

The CFA Standards Review and Interpretations Committee met on September 26, 2012, chaired by Commissioner Julie Jones, and made several recommendations for standards modifications to the Commission. The CFA Standards Change Notice is posted on the website.

The Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC) met on September 25, 2012. The first order of business was to grant excelsior reaccreditation to the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office Corrections Bureau, Broward County Sheriff’s Office Department of Detention, and Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Department of Corrections. Other facilities receiving reaccreditation in Sarasota included the Collier County Sheriff’s Office Corrections Department, Polk County Sheriff’s Office Department of Detention, and Monroe County Sheriff’s Office Bureau of Corrections.

The Standards Review and Interpretations Committee met on September 24, 2012 and recommended changes to FCAC standards. The Change Notice and updated Standards Manuals may be found on the website.
The Florida Accreditation Office offered several opportunities for training at the September conference. Chapter specific training was offered at the conference and was very well received.

We will continue to serve the training needs of our clients as we offer training across the state. Staff is continuing their work with Innovative Data Solutions on the PowerStandards software. Many agencies are currently using this module of PowerDMS to manage the accreditation process. If your agency has not had the opportunity to begin using PowerStandards, please contact your Program Manager.

The next Commission meetings are scheduled for February 19 and 21 at Mission Inn and Resort in Howey-in-the-Hills. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sarasota Conference Continued

Kipp Heisterman: 850-410-7201
Lori Mizell: 850-410-7202
Billy Walls 850-410-7203
Danielle Desilet: 850-410-7204
Debbie Moody: 850-410-7205

Sincerely,
CFA/FCAC Staff
1-800-558-0218
Kenneth Small
Florida League of Cities

Ken Small, as he is known across the State, has lived in Florida since 1958. He attended Florida State University in Tallahassee and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Macroeconomics in 1975.

Immediately following graduation from FSU, the City of Port St. Joe offered him the opportunity to learn how to run and operate a municipal government. Prior to his 24th birthday in 1976, Ken was hired by the City of Mulberry, FL, as their City Manager, making him the youngest City Manager in the country. In 1978, he chose to relocate back to Tallahassee, and served in several administrative capacities under Leon County’s Board of County Commissioners in Public Works Administration and the Office of Management and Budget.

By the end of 1984, he was recruited and hired by the Florida League of Cities to handle a variety areas including the League’s economist, finance and taxation lobbyist, and to function as the executive director of the Florida City and County Management Association. Over the past 25 years, Ken has represented Florida’s 411 incorporated municipalities in a wide variety of capacities, including 12 sessions before the Florida Legislature as a registered lobbyist. He serves as the League’s expert in a number of municipal operations and functions, including revenue enhancement and law enforcement/public safety.

Sheriff Gary Borders
Lake County Sheriff’s Office

Gary S. Borders was appointed by Governor Jeb Bush in November 2006, as the Sheriff of Lake County. Sheriff Borders has spent his 27 year career in the field of law enforcement, to include the Corrections aspect as well. Prior to joining the Lake County Sheriff’s Office in 1989, he was employed by the Osceola County Sheriff’s Office, where he was selected as the Assistant Jail Administrator at the young age of 24.

Sheriff Borders is very humbled by the confidence Lake County citizens have displayed in his ability to effectively and efficiently oversee this 755 member agency. Since his appointment, the Sheriff’s Office has received its Certificate of Accreditation from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, created a Street Crimes Unit as well as a Cyber Crimes Unit, and initiated the Sexual Offender Watch Program. The Sheriff was also the driving force in the Office’s partnership with Help Them Call Home.org, an organization that collects used cell phones in exchange for calling cards for Military Personnel to call home to their loved ones.

The Sheriff spends a great deal of time in the community which enables him to partner with the citizens to ensure a safe and secure community for all. Under Sheriff Borders’ leadership, the dedicated men and women of the Lake County Sheriff’s Office work diligently to best serve the citizens of our great community.
Judge Robert M. Foster has been Administrative Judge of Nassau County, Florida since 1994. He received his law degree from Indiana University in 1979 and practiced law in Jacksonville, Florida until his appointment as a Circuit Judge in 1988.

Judge Foster has been a member of The Florida Bar’s Civil Procedure Rules Committee and Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure. He was also Chairman of the YMCA of Florida’s First Coast and has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Jacksonville Areal Legal Aid, Inc., Youth Leadership Jacksonville, Athletes for Jacksonville Foundation, the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair and the Boys’ Home Association. He has also served as a member of The Duval County School Board Law Advisory Committee, Mayor’s Victim Assistance Advisory Council and the Domestic Violence Intervention Project. He has received the Judicial Advocate Award from the Guardian ad Litem and the outstanding Member of the Judiciary from the Jacksonville Jaycees. In 2010, the Nassau County American Inn of Court was renamed the Robert M. Foster Inn of Court in his honor.

Judge Foster has been married for 35 years to Sharon Kennedy Foster and they have two grown children Robert and Edward.
Criminal Court Services
Manager Shirley Olson

Shirley Olson received her BA in Legal Studies from the University of Central Florida in 1994 and her Master’s of Public Administration in 2000. She began her career with the court system as a Deputy Clerk of Court in Seminole County. She then was employed as Seminole County Probation Officer and managed a private probation agency in Volusia County for several years before assuming her position as Criminal Court Services Manager for the 7th Judicial Circuit in June 2005. In this capacity Shirley works closely with the Court Administrator and judges assigned to a criminal division. She is also responsible for the oversight of the Volusia County Pretrial Services program and the Court Interpreting, Court Reporting, and Digital Court Reporting departments for the circuit which comprises 4 counties. She is a member of the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies and the Association of Pretrial Professionals of Florida. She also participates in the Public Safety Coordinating Councils for the circuit, as well as the Probation Advisory Committee and Domestic Violence Committee. She is currently completing the Certified Court Manager program through the National Center for State Courts and serves as the project manager for the Remote Court Interpreting project and the development and implementation of the Criminal Court Case Management system.
Sheriff Thomas Knight

Sheriff Tom Knight just began his second term as Sheriff of Sarasota County. Upon first taking office in 2009, Sheriff Knight commenced a comprehensive Management Review that led to the reorganization of the agency in a way that streamlined operations and recognized real cost savings. Sheriff Knight then led the development of a Strategic Plan for the first time in the agency’s 88-year history, to chart the agency’s priorities in a very public way.

Sheriff Knight has maintained an essentially flat budget for the fifth year in a row, and returned $4.1 million to Sarasota County over the past four years. The Sheriff has improved technology and equipment for the agency, using forfeiture funds and grants to procure advanced resources. Sheriff Knight took on the prescription drug problem and metal thefts with innovative solutions and spearheaded new county ordinances to safeguard residents and businesses from the related crimes. Now, he is implementing “Intelligence 2 Action,” a program based on the intelligence-led policing philosophy that uses better data to target the biggest problems affecting the community, the places crimes occur, and people committing those crimes. Crime dropped 16% last year in Sarasota County; 21% since Sheriff Knight took office.

Sheriff Knight has lived in Florida since 1973 when his family moved to Sarasota County from western Pennsylvania. He graduated from Venice High School in 1981, attended Manatee Junior College and later transferred to Florida State University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in criminology in 1986. He received his Graduate Certificate in Criminal Justice from the University of South Florida in 2012. Sheriff Knight and his wife Tracy have two daughters and currently reside in Nokomis.
Liza is a Lee County native. She was born, raised and continues to call Lee County home. Liza began serving the court system fresh out of high school. Literally, she graduated on a Thursday and started working the following Monday! Her career began with the Lee County Clerk of Court’s office, Criminal Division. Liza graduated from Edison Community College with an Associate of Arts, May 2000 with a major in Criminal Justice and from Florida Gulf Coast University in May 2003 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and an emphasis in Forensic Psychology. Liza has two children that keep her busy and she is looking forward to the next adventure of parenting!

In 1999, Liza was intrigued by a Court Investigator position with the Administrative Office of the Courts Court Investigations, which is now Pretrial Services and decided to pursue her next venture. In 2004, Liza was promoted to Pretrial Services Manager. In 2007, Liza was promoted to Deputy Criminal Justice Director. Liza is responsible for overseeing the day to day operations of the Lee County Pretrial Services Department, which is a 24/7 operation. The department is composed of three units, which include the Intake and Investigation Unit, Supervision Unit and Case Management Unit.

Since 2007, Liza has served on the Association of Pretrial Professionals of Florida and is the current Southwest Regional Director. In addition, Liza is an active member of NAPSA and FL PAC. In November 2007, Liza earned status as a Certified Court Manager through the National Center for State Courts.

Under Liza’s leadership, the Lee County Pretrial Services Department gained accreditation in June of 2009 through the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission and earned re-accreditation in June of 2012. Lee County is one of only five agencies in the state to be accredited.

In 2010, the department was awarded a no cost BJA grant which led to the complete implementation of a validated risk instrument. In February 2010, Liza was selected to attend the New Pretrial Executives training provided by the National Institute of Corrections. In October 2010, Liza was again selected by the National Institute of Corrections to attend “Assessing Local Pretrial Justice Functions”.

In 2011, the department was awarded with a NACO achievement award for the Criminal Case Management program. In February 2012, Liza earned her certification as a Certified Pretrial Services Professional (CPSP) through the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies.

The Lee County Pretrial Services Department began as a program under the Administrative Office of the Courts, 20th Judicial Circuit, in 1988. Pretrial Services provides case management support to the 13 judges assigned to the criminal division in Lee County, along with the Chief Judge and Administrative Circuit Judge. The mission of Pretrial Services is to provide comprehensive case management services to the Judiciary, from case inception to case disposition, via professional staff committed to the highest standards of excellence.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AGENCIES ACCREDITED AND REACCREDITED AT THE SARASOTA CONFERENCE!

INITIAL ACCREDITATIONS:

- Sarasota Co SO Corrections Bureau
- Palm Beach Co SO Dept. of Corrections
- Broward Co SO Dept. of Detention
- Collier Co SO Corrections Dept.
- Polk Co SO Dept. of Detention
- Monroe Co SO Bureau of Corrections

REACCREDITATIONS:

- Dept. of Children and Families IG
- Dept. of Environmental Protection IG
- Monroe County Sheriff’s Office
- Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office
- Putnam County Sheriff’s Office
- Bradenton Police Department
- Orlando Police Department
- Satellite Beach Police Department

CFA Agencies • FCAC Facilities

Kissimmee Police Department

Hendry County Sheriff’s Office

Contact Us

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UPCOMING ACCREDITATION CONFERENCES

FEBRUARY 17 - 22, 2013
Mission Inn Resort & Club, Howey-in-the-Hills

JUNE 24 - JUNE 28, 2013
Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa, Bonita Springs

SEPTEMBER 23-27, 2013
Hyatt Regency Sarasota