The Florida Accreditation fall conference was held October 6 - 10 in the land of the Manatees at the Plantation Inn in Crystal River. Florida Accreditation would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to the FLA-PAC, host agency Citrus County Sheriff’s Office and all of the volunteers who made this conference so outstanding. We particularly want to thank Lt. Doug Dodd, Deputy Wayne King and Ms. Jody Bloomer for all of their hard work before, during, and after the conference.

The Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission, Inc., met on October 7, 2008. The first order of business was to approve a new policy addressing accreditation with conditions and the withholding of accreditation. Following approval of that policy the Commission granted reaccreditation to the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office Department of the Jail and the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office Detention Facility. The Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office Department of Detention Services was reviewed for reaccreditation, and will be reconsidered for reaccreditation at the February 2009 Commission meeting.

Director Greg Futch from the Osceola County Department of Corrections was selected as the newest FCAC Commissioner, replacing Commissioner Tammy Waldrop. Commissioner Futch’s first official meeting will be February 24, 2009. Steve Hurm, Regional Legal Advisor for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, was introduced as the new FCAC Legal Advisor.

The Commission unanimously voted to reappoint Commissioner David Harvey as the Chair of the Commission, and Commissioner Tommy Seagraves was unanimously voted to be reappointed as Vice Chair.

The Commission approved six new standards dealing with legal system accessibility for deaf and hard of hearing individuals in local jails. These standards are detailed with other standards changes on Change Notice 3.0.13, which is available on our website at www.flaccreditation.org.

Executive Director Bogart has returned from his leave of absence effective January 1, 2009. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any FCAC staff member.

On Wednesday, October 8, the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. (CFA) reviewed and accredited one new agency, and reaccredited 20 agencies. Eleven Commissioners were in attendance including: Chair – Chief Peter Paulding, Chief Ken Pachnek, Chief Bill Hall, Sheriff Dean Kelly, Sheriff Richard Nugent, Sheriff Bob Hansell, Judge Keith Cary, Colonel Julie Jones, City Manager Jack Schluckebier, Commissioner Gary Wheeler, and Chief Curt Willocks.
CFA is excited and pleased to announce that Sunrise Police Department received initial accreditation at this conference. The agencies receiving reaccredited status are: Manatee County Sheriff’s Office, Pasco County Sheriff’s Office, Seminole County Sheriff’s Office, Lake Mary Police Department, Osceola County Sheriff’s Office, Wauchula Police Department, Ponce Inlet Police Department, Daytona Beach Police Department, Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office, Sarasota Police Department, Longwood Police Department, Hardee County Sheriff’s Office, Lantana Police Department, Sebastian Police Department, Stuart Police Department, Florida State University Police Department, Clay County Sheriff’s Office, University of North Florida Police Department, Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office, and Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office. Congratulations to all of these outstanding agencies for their success and commitment to a philosophy of excellence.

The Process Review Task Force met on September 8 with a mandate to review all of the suggestions gathered from the results of a memorandum sent to all agency CEOs by Chair Paulding in April, the Town Hall meeting held in June in Coral Springs, and from the sub-committee comprised of Wanda White – Escambia County, Bob Brongel – Florida Dept. of Insurance Fraud, and Dianne Hill – Hernando County Sheriff’s Office. The rest of the members of the PRTF are: Commissioners from Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC) – Commissioner Susan Burdette, Commissioner David Diggs, and Commissioner Susan Jeter. CFA Commissioners Chief Curt Willocks, City Manager Jack Schluckebier, and Chief Bill Hall joined staff at the Florida Accreditation office. This review and discussion was to bring to the full Commission five recommendations to streamline the processes with an eye toward saving the clients money on accreditation.

Four of the five recommendations brought to the Commissioners were approved and they are:

1. The static display is now optional for initial and reaccreditation on-site assessments.
2. The phone-in session is no longer a component of assessments.
3. The CFA staff will initiate contact with all insurance agencies in Florida that provide coverage for public safety agencies to explore possible ways in which to reduce premium rates for the accredited agencies.
4. The photograph of the agency receiving their accreditation award will move from the general meeting to immediately following the panel review. When an agency is through with their panel review, they will be escorted to the area where their photograph will be taken with their certificate. This will speed up the process during the meetings.

The fifth suggestion brought to the full Commission was not resolved during the PRTF meeting. It was left up to the Commissioners to have a discussion and vote whether to change the schedule of CFA conferences from three meetings per year to two. After a lengthy discussion with input from interested parties outside of the Commission, a clear majority voted in favor of keeping the current schedule of three meetings per year.

The beauty of this process is its transparency and democratic nature. Any issue can be revisited at any time in the future and is open for the possibility of change.

The CFA Standards Review and Interpretation Committee (SRIC) was chaired by Commissioners Dean Kelly and Bill Hall who did an outstanding job of moving the committee along. SRIC had a moderate agenda and addressed each issue with careful review and resolution. The Change Notice for standard changes approved at October’s meeting is available on the website. The programmers are working on updating the Accreditation Manager© software program which should be ready very soon.

Other Commission business included an update on the Inspectors General (IG) Investigations function accreditation program. There had been a delay in completing the standards for this new program, but effective immediately we are moving forward with this great new program. The next step is the final review of the standards and presentation to the Commission in February 2009. In addition, the CFA team and members of the Inspectors General team are working on different parts of the processes including the Agreement and protocols for assessments. An Accreditation Manager training class for the IGs was held December 3-4, 2008 in Tallahassee. CFA’s goal is to have a finished product to present to the Commissioners at the February 2009 meeting for their approval. A roll out is anticipated for March 2009.

It was with deep sadness that CFA acknowledges the loss of our beloved legal adviser, Steve Brady. He will definitely be missed. We welcome and thank Steve Hurm from FDLE headquarters in Tallahassee for stepping in at this conference and for volunteering to accept the legal adviser role for both CFA and FCAC.
CFA bid farewell to two Commissioners at this conference: Chief William “Bill” Hall of the South Daytona Police Department, and Sheriff Dean Kelly of the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office. They will certainly be missed, but we look forward to seeing them at future conferences as participants. Sheriff Wendell Hall of Santa Rosa County is replacing Commissioner Kelly, and Chief Robert Merchant of the Altamonte Springs Police Department is replacing Commissioner Hall. At the end of October, we received a letter of resignation from Commissioner G. Curt Willocks, Chief of Gulfport Police Department. Commissioner Willocks indicated there were personal issues that would require his full attention. We are so sorry to see Commissioner Willocks leave us also. Our newest FPCA appointee is Chief Albert “Butch” Arenal from Punta Gorda Police Department. We look forward to welcoming these three new Commissioners at the February meeting in Tampa!

The Commissioners elected a new Chair and Vice Chair for 2009 and they were Commissioner Ken Mascara – as Chair, and Commissioner Keith Cary – as Vice-Chair. These new officers will assume the helm at the February conference. In addition, the following committee appointments were made: SRIC Chair is Commissioner Julie Jones, Vice Chair is Commissioner Richard Nugent; Awards Committee Chair – Commissioner Jack Schluckebier.

The next conference will be at the Crowne Plaza East in Tampa, February 23 – 27, 2009.

Be sure and check the website, www.flaccreditation.org for more information on training opportunities and other pertinent information about CFA and FCAC.
The FCAC SRIC met on Monday afternoon (October 6th) and reviewed 10 submissions, which resulted in the following results/recommendations which were approved by the Commission:

Corrections Standards:

- 3.01M – Deleted bullet B
- 4.06 M – Added Bullet E, Criminal history
- 4.22 M – Modified to read “A written directive describes procedures an employee must follow when receiving unlawful or conflicting orders from supervisors.”
- 8.05 M – Bullet L modified to read “Documented annual review of the plan.”
- 4.28 – New standard addressing designation of an ADA coordinator
- 7.19 – New standard addressing procedures for obtaining the services of qualified interpreters
- 9.17 – New standard addressing the use of telephones in the facility
- 9.18 – New standard addressing the existence and location of accessible services for the disabled
- 9.19 – New standard addressing alternative means of providing information if the facility does not have closed-captioning capabilities for required audiovisual media.
- 19.20 – New standard addressing the maintenance of inmate hearing aids.
- New definitions: Qualified interpreter, TTY, TRS

Both change notices can be found in their entirety on our website, www.flaccreditation.org.
A member of the Osceola County Sheriff’s Office since 1976, Sheriff Robert E. Hansell has spent his entire law enforcement career with the agency. He began as a deputy sheriff and earned promotions to the rank of captain. He has served as a member and commander of the agency’s SWAT team, and as the high-risk incident commander. Prior to being elected Sheriff of Osceola County, Bob Hansell had worked in, supervised and managed virtually every area of the agency.

Born and raised in Osceola County, Sheriff Hansell graduated from Osceola High School and the J.C. Stone Law Enforcement Academy. He is a graduate of the 109th Administrative Officers Course at the Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky.

Sheriff Hansell serves as the co-chair of the Florida Region 5 Domestic Security Task Force. He is a member of the Kissimmee and St. Cloud Chambers of Commerce and the St. Cloud High School Athletics Booster Club. He is very involved in Flee To Be Free and the Special Olympics. Sheriff Hansell is a past chairman of the Sheriff’s Office United Way campaign. He sits on the board of directors of the following organizations: Osceola County Council on Aging, Osceola County Investigative Bureau, Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation, Technical Education Center of Osceola (TECO), Give Kids Safe Shelter, Boys and Girls Club, Osceola Regional Area Council, Park Place Behavioral, Florida Hospital, Community Vision, YMCA, and Crimeline.

Gordon Bass was born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida. He joined the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office in 1976. Currently, Gordon is an appointed member of the Sheriff’s Executive Staff, holding the rank of Director (Department of Corrections). Prior to his appointment as Director, Gordon held the appointed positions of Chief of Detectives, Chief of Community Affairs, and Assistant Chief of Patrol, respectively. Throughout his tenure with the Sheriff’s Office Gordon has been afforded the opportunity to work in a variety of rewarding positions; beginning in Corrections, then continuing in the Patrol Division, Detective Division and staff positions. While serving as Chief of a Division, Gordon also held the responsibility of the Sheriff’s Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Having written and compiled the Sheriff’s Office Unusual Occurrences Manual (emergency operations plans) in order to satisfy accreditation standards, Gordon served with the Sheriff on the law enforcement subcommittee of the Governor’s Regional Domestic Security Task Force. This involved responsibilities regarding homeland security issues such as terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. The role of coordinator also carried with it, emergency management responsibilities for law enforcement in matters pertaining to any manmade or natural disaster. Currently Gordon is the Director of the Department of Corrections for the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office overseeing the Department’s three correctional facilities located in Duval County, Jacksonville, Florida.

Gordon holds a BS degree as well as dual Master of Arts degrees. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy. In addition to his formal education Gordon has attended numerous professional seminars and certification courses, serves on several boards, is active in the community, and is a member of a number of professional and civic organizations.
Congratulations to The Agencies Accredited and Reaccredited at the Crystal River Conference!

- Lake Mary Police Department
- Osceola County Sheriff’s Office
- Wauchula Police Department
- Ponce Inlet Police Department
- Daytona Beach Police Department
- Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office
- Sarasota Police Department
- Longwood Police Department
- Hardee County Sheriff’s Office
- Florida State University Police Department

Sunrise Police Department
(Initial Accreditation)

- Manatee County Sheriff’s Office
- Pasco County Sheriff’s Office
- Seminole County Sheriff’s Office

- Lantana Police Department
- Sebastian Police Department
- Stuart Police Department
- Clay County Sheriff’s Office
- University of North Florida Police Department
- Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office
- Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office
- Alachua County Sheriff’s Office Department of the Jail
- Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office Detention Facility