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March 8, 2016

Dear Law Enforcement Professional,

The State of Ohio Accreditation Resource (SOAR) coalition supports the concept of accreditation of law enforcement related agencies, its philosophy, and objectives as a means to enhance the quality of law enforcement services. SOAR is an organization to encourage communication, mutual cooperation, support, and the sharing of resources.

Traditionally SOAR has acted as one voice to the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) in matters and issues relevant to its members. However, the state of Ohio has recently developed a set of state standards with the expectation that all law enforcement agencies in the state comply.

In light of these new state standards, accreditation now affects each and every law enforcement agency in the state of Ohio. Regardless of your agency's decision to participate or not participate in a voluntary accreditation program such as CALEA, your agency will have to address the new state requirements.

At the next SOAR meeting, we will discuss these new standards, the compliance process for these standards, as well as additional accreditation issues. On behalf of SOAR, I invite you to attend this meeting which will be held at 10am, on Friday, April 15, 2016, at The Ohio State Patrol Training Academy, 740 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211.

After the meeting, the Training Academy has offered to serve lunch for anyone who is interested, at a cost of \$7 per person, cash only. Please RSVP by April 1<sup>st</sup> to [SOARaccreditation@gmail.com](mailto:SOARaccreditation@gmail.com) with the number of attendees for the meeting and the number of attendees for lunch.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at (614) 645-4603.

Sincerely,  
*Aimee A. Haley*  
SOAR President