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Farmington Hills Police Department Earns Reaccreditation through Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission

FHPD is one of only nine agencies in the Michigan to be accredited for a third time

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. (Oct. 16, 2024) – The City of Farmington Hills is proud to announce that the Farmington Hills Police Department (FHPD) has successfully achieved reaccreditation through the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MLEAC). The reaccreditation was unanimously approved at a MLEAC hearing on Sept. 11 in Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

“This accreditation reflects the commitment of the Farmington Hills Police Department to go above and beyond law enforcement standards to ensure that the City of Farmington Hills is safe and welcoming for all,” said City Manager Gary Mekjian. “I’m grateful for the leadership of Chief Jeff King, who first helped the Department achieve accreditation in 2018, and has since advocated for continual improvements to the Department’s operations to better serve the community.”

Of the 588 law enforcement agencies in Michigan, only 87 have achieved accreditation status, including Farmington Hills. The FHPD is the ninth and largest police department to be reaccredited twice by the MLEAC.

“I am proud that the Farmington Hills Police Department continues to meet and exceed the best practice of law enforcement today, including a commitment to 21st Century Policing, community engagement and transparency,” said Police Chief Jeff King. “This reaccreditation is yet another example of the tremendous professionalism of the men and women of this agency, who provide superior police services without prejudice or partiality to our community each and every day.”

Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping law enforcement agencies calculate and improve their overall performances. The foundation of accreditation lies in the voluntary adoption of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives. Participating agencies conduct a thorough self-analysis to determine which of their existing operations meet the standards and/or how the procedures can be adapted to meet the standards and professional objectives. When the procedures are in place, a team of trained Commission assessors verifies that applicable standards have been successfully implemented into written directives and confirms that the directives are followed through the review of proofs which verify that the agency is in compliance. There are currently 108 standards, each with numerous sub-categories. To date, the Department has presented several thousand proofs spanning the three-year assessment period to demonstrate compliance.

“The Farmington Hills Police Department is invested in building relationships with the community through their involvement with various community groups and participation in

special events,” said Ron Wiles, manager of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police accreditation program, in his on-site assessment report. “This is represented in an impressive list of 30 plus activities and community engagement events.”

Accreditation is valid for a three-year period, during which time the agency must submit annual reports demonstrating their continued compliance with the standards under which it was initially accredited. The Farmington Hills Police Department accreditation status will be up for review in 2027.

For more information about the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, visit www.michiganpolicechiefs.org.

For more information about the Farmington Hills Police Department, visit www.fhgov.com/departments-and-services/police/.

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About the City of Farmington Hills

The City of Farmington Hills is a place where everyone is welcome. Founded in 1973, it is one of the largest and most diverse communities in Oakland County. Farmington Hills is home to more than 83,000 residents who speak more than 60 languages, and more than 75 Fortune 500 businesses, including multinational corporations like Nissan and Bosch. The City is known for its extensive amenities, including its 600 acres of parks, 90 athletic fields, six miles of hiking and walking trails, the Farmington Hills Golf Club, and an Ice Arena. Farmington Hills is also home to The Hawk, an award-winning, 245,000-square-foot recreation and arts venue, which includes The Hawk Theatre and The Hawk Makerspace. For more information, visit www.fhgov.com.

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Caption for attached photo (left to right): Farmington Hills Police Captain Richard Blendea, Chief Jeff King, Assistant Chief John Piggott and Lieutenant Michael Connolly received the MLEAC reaccreditation recognition plaque following the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission hearing in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. on Sept. 11.