

# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Accreditation Assessment Team Invites Public Comment

**Plainwell, MI** — Plainwell Department of Public Safety Director Kevin Callahan announced today that a team of assessors from the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MLEAC) will arrive on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, to examine all aspects of the Plainwell Department of Public Safety's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services.

"Verification by the team that the Plainwell Department of Public Safety meets the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission's *best practice* standards is part of a voluntary process to achieve accreditation—a highly respected recognition of law enforcement professional excellence," said Director Callahan.

As part of the final on-site assessment, employees and members of the general public are invited to provide comments to the Assessment Team. Comments may be submitted by telephone or email. The public may call 269-213-5891 on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Email comments may be sent to [publicsafety@plainwell.org](mailto:publicsafety@plainwell.org).

Telephone comments are limited to five (5) minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with the Commission's standards. A copy of the standards is available for inspection at the Plainwell Department of Public Safety, 119 Island Avenue, Plainwell, MI 49080. Please contact Deputy Director John Varley at 269-685-9858 for additional information.

Anyone wishing to offer written comments about the Plainwell Department of Public Safety's ability to comply with the standards for accreditation is requested to email the Accreditation Program manager at [msilverthorn@michiganpolicechiefs.org](mailto:msilverthorn@michiganpolicechiefs.org) or write the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission at 3474 Alaieton Pkwy, Suite 600, Okemos, MI 48864.

The Plainwell Department of Public Safety must comply with 130 standards in order to achieve accredited status. Director Callahan indicated, "*Accreditation results in greater accountability within the agency, reduced risk and liability exposure, stronger defense against civil lawsuits, increased community advocacy, and more confidence in the agency's ability to operate efficiently and respond to community needs.*"

The Accreditation Program Director for the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police is Matt Silverthorn. "*The assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from similar Michigan law enforcement agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview agency members, and visit offices and other places where compliance with the standards can be*

*observed. Once the assessors complete their review of the agency, they will report to the full Commission, which will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status”, Matt Silverthorn stated.*

Accreditation is valid for a three-year period during which time the agency must submit annual reports attesting to their continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

The MACP, through its Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, is the legitimate authority and accreditation agency in the state of Michigan. For more information regarding the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, please write the Commission at: MACP, Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission at 3474 Alaieton Pkwy, Suite 600, Okemos, MI 48864 or email at [msilverthorn@michiganpolicechiefs.org](mailto:msilverthorn@michiganpolicechiefs.org)

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