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Immediate Release

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ACCREDITATION TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ABOUT THE MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Key West, FL: A team of assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will arrive May 1, 2018 to examine all aspects of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Sheriff Rick Ramsay announced today. The MCSO has to comply with approximately 260 standards in order to receive accredited status. Many of the standards are critical to life, health and safety issues.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency members and the general public are invited to offer comments to the assessment team. A copy of the standards is available through Adam Linhardt, MCSO Public Information Officer in Key West at **(phone number)**.

For more information regarding CFA or for persons wishing to offer written comments about the MCSO's ability to meet the standards of accreditation, please write:
CFA, P.O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302, or email to info@flaccreditation.org.

The Accreditation Program Manager for MCSO is Sergeant Tom Walker. Walker said the assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from similar agencies. The assessors will review written materials; interview individuals; and visit offices and other places where compliance can be witnessed. The CFA Assessment Team Leader is Marette Sims of the Winter Springs Florida Police Department. Other team members are Megham Warham of the Palatka Florida Police Department and Tammy Farnham of the Stuart Florida Police Department.

Once the Commission's assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to the full Commission, which will then decide if the agency is to receive accredited status. MCSO's accreditation is for three years. Verification by the team that MCSO meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to gain or maintain accreditation--a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence, Sheriff Ramsay said.