



USAMPS Joins FLETA



By the USAMPS Accreditation Programs Team

In April 2010, the U.S. Army Military Police School (USAMPS) accepted a request to join the Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation (FLETA) initiative. This initiative began with the 2005 congressionally mandated federal law enforcement initiative to promote excellence in law enforcement operations by producing well-trained federal agents and police officers who are competent, professional, and capable of instilling public confidence in federal law enforcement in our country and around the world.

In an effort to improve federal law enforcement training, a task force comprised of key training leaders from principal federal and state law enforcement agencies researched and evaluated various programs and academies available for training federal law enforcement agents and officers. The task force then used this information to establish a set of professional standards and develop an independent accreditation process that provides law enforcement agencies with an opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate that they meet those standards and to receive the appropriate recognition. This independent accreditation initiative is known as FLETA.

The accreditation of a particular federal law enforcement program or academy demonstrates to the citizens served by the agency that the agency has voluntarily submitted to a process of self-regulation and successfully complied with a set of standards that has been collectively established by peers within the professional community. The agency's compliance with the accreditation standards assures effective methods, quality training, and integrity. To accomplish the goal of accreditation, trainers within the same discipline work through a professional accrediting body to assist each other in evaluating and improving training standards and professionalism. The focus of the effort is the accreditation of federal entry-level and advanced/specialized training programs, instructor training, and other programs that affect multiple federal, state, and local law enforcement

officers. An important outcome is a high degree of public confidence in the competence and professionalism of federal agents and police officers.

The USAMPS Accreditation Programs Team has also completed the FLETA process for the U.S. Army Civilian Police Academy and is currently working on accreditation for the Military Occupational Specialty 31B One-Station Unit Training Course and U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (USACIDC) (commonly referred to as "CID") Special Agent Course. In an effort to identify critical accreditations and associations for USAMPS, the team is further working with the American Correctional Association to achieve accreditation for all Military Occupational Specialty 31E training at USAMPS—a process that is expected to be completed in fiscal year 2011. And USAMPS has already achieved International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts accreditation for police intelligence operations training. The Accreditation Programs Team is currently researching several other accreditation—and even college degree conferral authority—possibilities for crime scene technicians, investigators, and agents.

USAMPS continues to seek methods of improvement. Simple, task-based instruction is being replaced by higher-order delivery means, including scenario-based learning events, simulations, and gaming. These training methods will allow adult learners to synthesize learning through critical thinking and second- and third-order effects.

Through the aforementioned methodologies, partnerships, and accreditations, USAMPS continues to demonstrate a commitment to excellence and support for the premise that it is the Department of Defense law enforcement training center of choice now and in the future.

The USAMPS Accreditation Programs Team consists of Mr. Ron Mullihan, accreditation programs manager, and Mr. Steve Golden and Mr. Jim Reilly, accreditation programs coordinators.