



Upper Dublin Township Police Department

801 Loch Alsh Avenue
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www.UpperDublin.net



Terrence P. Thompson
Chief of Police

Press Release

July 21, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On Thursday, June 9, 2011 the Upper Dublin Township Police Department successfully completed the requirements necessary to be re-accredited for a 3 year term by the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. The Upper Dublin Township Police Department was officially recognized for their accomplishment and awarded documents displaying their achievement by the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission on behalf of the Pennsylvania Chief's of Police Association at their conference on July 13th.

The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association introduced the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Program to the Commonwealth in July 2001. Since then, of the over 1,150 law enforcement agencies within Pennsylvania, approximately 300 agencies have enrolled in the program and only 71 agencies currently have attained accredited status. The members of the Upper Dublin Township Police Department are proud to have attained this distinguished status.

The Upper Dublin Township Police Department, under the direction of Chief Terrence P. Thompson, first embarked on becoming an accredited agency in the fall of 2003. At that point, Deputy Chief Lee Benson, a Patrol Sergeant at the time, was assigned the task of updating the policies and procedures of the department. Within a matter of 18 months, the department had an updated policy and procedures manual, a new police department facility, personnel properly trained on the new police policies and procedures, and the proofs of compliance necessary to ensure that the department was meeting the approximately 115 established standards. On May 21, 2005 the Upper Dublin Township Police Department became a state accredited law enforcement agency. Once initial accreditation is achieved it must be maintained and the process of providing the necessary proofs of compliance resumes for a 3 year period. Detective Michael Gommer, then a Highway Patrol Officer, was assigned the responsibility of ensuring that the department maintained its compliance with the accreditation standards. Detective



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Gommer successfully completed this assignment and on July 12, 2008 the department was re-accredited by the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. Once the department maintained its re-accredited status, Patrol Officer David Madrak, was re-assigned as the department's Professional Standards Officer. As the department's Professional Standards Officers it is Officer Madrak's duty to manage the department's accreditation program, as well as many other department initiatives some of which are grant management, personnel training, statistical analysis, and the annual report. As with any successful program, the accreditation program has evolved and expanded, and there are now approximately 132 standards to ensure compliance with. On June 9th and 10th the Upper Dublin Township Police Department was evaluated by a team of accreditation assessors who received a tour of the police department facility, reviewed department policy and procedures, and proofs of compliance, as well as conducted ride-alongs and interviewed department personnel. After this two day evaluation the accreditation assessors determined that the Upper Dublin Township Police Department successfully completed the requirements necessary to be re-accredited by the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. The Upper Dublin Township Police Department will now be accredited through June of 2014, at which time it will once again be re-evaluated.

Chief Thompson sought to have the Upper Dublin Township Police Department become an accredited agency in order to provide the members of the Upper Dublin Township community with a professional law enforcement agency that continuously strives to provide the best police services possible. Chief Thompson believes that by taking part in the accreditation program, the police department is open for inspection assessment team members whose duty it is to scrutinize various aspects of the police department and to ensure compliance with the approximately 132 standards. The department displays that it is an accredited law enforcement agency on its letterhead, vehicles, building, and on the officers' uniforms. Chief Thompson is proud of the members of the Upper Dublin Township Police Department for maintaining the status of being an accredited law enforcement agency for this 9 year period.



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According to The Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission's website, the accreditation program was designed and developed by professional law enforcement executives to provide a reasonable and cost effective plan for the professionalization of law enforcement agencies within the Commonwealth. Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping institutions evaluate and improve their overall performance. When the proper policies and procedures are in place, a team of independent professionals is assigned to verify that all applicable standards have been successfully implemented. The process culminates with a decision by an authoritative body that the institution is worthy of accreditation.

Contact Person:

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