



STRATHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Anthony J. King – Chief of Police

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For immediate release

Stratham Police Department to be Awarded State Accreditation

On June 3rd, 2025, the New Hampshire Law enforcement Accreditation Commission voted to grant accreditation status to the Stratham Police Department for the first time. Stratham joins the Derry and Bow Police Departments to first earn this recognition.

Accreditation is a self-initiated evaluation process by which police departments strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established for the profession. Outlined in the 115 New Hampshire standards, these reflect critical areas of police management, operations, and critical support activities. They cover areas such as policy development, emergency response, training, communications, property and evidence handling, use of force, vehicular pursuit, prisoner transportation and detention facilities. The program not only sets standards for the law enforcement profession, but also for the delivery of police services to citizens of this State.

Through the hard work and dedication of the men and women of the agency, the Stratham Police Department was assessed on May 15th, 2025 by a team of Commission-appointed assessors. The Assessment Team found the Department to be in compliance with all applicable standards for New Hampshire Accreditation.



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Achieving Accreditation from the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission is considered a very significant accomplishment and is a recognition that is highly regarded by the law enforcement community,” said Chief King.

The standards for accreditation impact officer and public safety, address high liability/risk management issues, and generally promote operational efficiency throughout the agency. The benefits are therefore many and will vary among participating departments based on the size and state of the department when it enters the process. Listed below are some of the more common benefits.

Accreditation:

- Provides a norm for an agency to judge its performance.
- Provides a basis to correct deficiencies before they become public problems.
- Requires agencies to commit policies and procedures to writing.
- Promotes accountability among agency personnel and the evenhanded application of policies.
- Provides a means of independent evaluation of agency operations.
- Minimizes an agency’s exposure to liability, builds a stronger defense against lawsuits, and has the potential to reduce liability insurance costs.
- Enhances the reputation of the agency and increases the



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public's confidence in it.

King added, "Police Accreditation serves to reassure our community that their police department is trained, prepared and ready to handle anything from routine calls for service to large scale emergencies. Agency preparedness begins with having a current written directive system that incorporates best business practices into agency policies and operational plans."

The Stratham Police Department wants to thank our staff at the police department, other Town departments, our supportive residents, and the Stratham Select Board for supporting our efforts during this process.

Chief Anthony King



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