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## City of Spartanburg Fire Department receives coveted International Accredited Agency status

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (April 4, 2016) – The City of Spartanburg Fire Department has earned Accredited Agency status with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) for meeting the criteria established through the CFAI’s voluntary self-assessment and accreditation program. The City of Spartanburg Fire Department is one of about 200 agencies to achieve Internationally Accredited Agency status with the CFAI and the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. (CPSE).

The department is just the 10th in the state of South Carolina to achieve the status. There are more than 485 fire departments in the state and 30,000 in the nation. This is Spartanburg Fire Department’s third accreditation since 2003.

“This is a tremendous accomplishment and underscores the fact that citizens and businesses in the City of Spartanburg are supported and protected by world-class fire prevention, safety and response services,” City Manager Ed Memmott said. “This is important recognition, and I am extremely proud of the job Fire Chief Marion Blackwell and our 77 firefighters and department personnel do every day.”

CFAI is dedicated to assisting the fire and emergency service agencies throughout the world in achieving excellence through self-assessment and accreditation in order to provide continuous quality improvement and the enhancement of service delivery to their communities. The CFAI process is voluntary, and provides an agency with an improvement model to assess their service delivery and performance internally and then works with a team of peers from other agencies to evaluate their completed self-assessment.

“This accreditation demonstrates our commitment to provide the highest quality of service to our community,” Blackwell said. “We have been able to use this accreditation process as a mechanism to plan for the future of the department. I am ecstatic for our department — we have a great team of dedicated people and this accreditation is a reflection of them.”

For more information on the accreditation process, visit:  
<http://www.cpse.org/agency-accreditation/about-accreditation-cfai.aspx>

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