



**Commission for Florida  
Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1489 ~ Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 410-7200

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October 23, 2025

Sheriff John W. Mina  
Orange County Sheriff's Office  
2500 West Colonial Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32804

Dear Sheriff Mina,

Congratulations!

We are pleased to inform you the Orange County Sheriff's Office has met the required standards to become reaccredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation as an Excelsior agency (Sixth award).

Your reaccredited status is official as of this date and will remain in effect for a period of three years. Compliance with any future standards approved by the Commission that may be applicable to your department is part of maintaining your accredited status.

You and your agency are to be commended for your continued diligence, professionalism, and commitment in maintaining this highest recognition among Florida's law enforcement community.

We look forward to working with you and your agency in your continued pursuit of excellence. On behalf of the Commission, we extend our thanks for your participation and congratulations on a job well done!

Sincerely,

R. Stacy Lehman  
Executive Director

**To: Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc.**  
**From: Matthew Fletcher, Team Leader**  
**Date: July 24, 2025**  
**Re: Orange County Sheriff's Office**  
**2500 West Colonial Drive**  
**Orlando, Florida 32804**

**CORE Assessment Report**  
**July 22-23, 2025**

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**A. Agency/Assessment Information:**

Chief Executive Officer: John W. Mina, Sheriff  
Accreditation Manager: John Farrell

Standards Manual Version: 1.19

Previous Accreditation Dates: October 1996, October 1999, February 2002, October 2004, October 2007, October 2010, September 2013, October 2016, October 2019, October 2022

Excelsior Dates: October 2010, September 2013, October 2016, and October 2019, October 2022

Additional Accreditations: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA).

Assessment Team Recommendation: Excelsior Reaccreditation

**Assessment Team**

Matthew Fletcher, Team Leader  
Naples Police Department  
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**B. Compliance Tally:**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Mandatory Standards</b>	<b>Other-than-mandatory Standards</b>	<b>Total Standards</b>
In compliance	92	1	93
Not in compliance	0	0	0
Not applicable	3	0	3
Elected 20%	0	0	0
Waiver	0	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>96</b>

Total Applicable Other-than-mandatory Standards	1
Maximum allowable number of Elected Exemptions	0

**C. Agency Profile:**

The Timucuan and Seminole Native Tribes first occupied Central Florida followed by pioneer settlers. In 1845, the area known as Mosquito County in Territorial Florida was renamed Orange County, reflecting the large area of orange groves throughout the region. This was the same year in which Florida became a state and the first election for sheriff of Orange County was completed. The county lived in relative obscurity until the citrus industry evolved and made it one of the country's most prolific and best-known orange and grapefruit producing regions. Snowbirds from the northern states would ride the railroads, follow the sweet scent of the orange blossoms, to find their way to the area. A handful of commercial properties and America's space program would be the first signs of the explosive growth that is now associated with Orange County. To most of the world, Orange County did not exist until the man who drew that cartoon mouse drained several hundred acres of swamp land and built what quickly evolved into one of the world's premier tourist destinations. The tourism industry continues to be a driving force within Orange County and was further augmented by the development and growth of the Orange County Convention Center, which has become the second largest in the nation.

Orange County is one of seven counties recognized as comprising Central Florida. It is a charter county, meaning it has its own constitution and is self-governing. The first charter went into effect in January 1987. In November 1988, voters approved the creation of a new form of government for Orange County: a mayor elected by the community at large and the creation of six, single-member districts. Having a charter gives the county the ability to respond to a changing environment and meet local needs. The Orange County charter is the legal document whereby county government operates day-to-day business.

The Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) is currently one of the largest law enforcement agencies in the Southeastern United States with a budget of almost \$361 million and 2,445 authorized sworn and civilian employees. Sheriff John W. Mina was elected in a special election in 2018 and reelected in 2020 and 2024. He is responsible

for over 1.51 million residents and more than 75.3 million tourists who visit Orange County every year. Their jurisdiction spans almost 1,100 square miles.

Initially accredited by Commission on Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) in 1996, OCSO was reaccredited in December of 2022 as a five-time Excelsior agency. Additionally, the OCSO was initially accredited by the Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 1995. OCSO has received the Advanced CALEA Accreditation Meritorious award for the previous five cycles with the last reaccreditation in November of 2024.

The OCSO is composed of two bureaus, each commanded by a Chief Deputy. Each bureau consists of three divisions which are each headed by a Major. The Operational Services Bureau consists of the Uniform Patrol Division, the Criminal Investigation Division, and the Special Operations Divisions. The Administrative Services Bureau consists of the Human Resources Division, the Court Services/Communications Division, and the Support Services Division.

#### **D. Assessment Summary:**

Prior to the assessment, the assessment team communicated by telephone and email regarding chapter assignments and the philosophy of the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation for the assessment. Team Leader Matthew Fletcher also communicated with the OCSO Accreditation Manager, John Farrell, regarding logistics and preparation for the assessment.

On Monday, July 21, 2025, the assessment team met at the hotel and discussed team assignments, the assessment information, and the assessment agenda.

On Tuesday, July 22, 2025, the assessment team arrived at the OCSO. Assessors met with the agency's Quality Assurance Section members Captain Debra Doub, John Farrell, Heather Dublonsky, Kimberly Boothe, and Sergeant John MacDonald. These employees were helpful aiding the assessment team and acclimating the team with an overview and tour of the agency's headquarters building.

The entrance interview was completed and included members of the assessment team and OCSO employees including Undersheriff Mark Canty, Chief Deputy Denise Demps, Chief Deputy Carlos Torres, John Farrell, Captain Debra Doub, Heather Dublonsky, Kimberly Boothe, and Sergeant John MacDonald. Team Leader Fletcher shared the philosophy of the CFA and Undersheriff Canty extended an invitation of transparency within the agency as well as the background and overview of the agency.

The team began the file review, observation, and interview processes to ensure compliance with applicable standards. The team spent the remainder of the assessment conducting file review, interviews with personnel, and site and equipment evaluation to determine the agency's compliance with standards.

During the assessment, the team interviewed or were provided information about the agency by the following agency members:

Mark Canty, Undersheriff  
Denise Demps, Chief Deputy  
John Farrell, Accreditation Manager  
Heather Dublonsky, Accreditation  
Mariluz Santana, Major  
Terri Piwowarski, Captain  
Jon Nichols, HRD Supervisor  
Robert Lees, Corporal  
Timothy Farmer, Lieutenant  
Sarah Koerber, Forensic Lab Supervisor  
Chris Hall, Lieutenant  
Harry Prochet, Sergeant  
Cristal Maisonet, Asst. General Counsel  
Arnell Williams, Records Manager  
Michael Harman, Lieutenant  
Joseph McCollom, Captain  
Michelle Shaheed, Lieutenant  
Brian Cassidy, Sergeant  
Virginia Ricks, Lieutenant  
Jonathan Kinney, Corporal  
Timere Mazion, Evidence Supervisor  
Osvaldo Caner, DUI Testing Supervisor  
Evan Avila, Corporal  
Chad Barnett, Master Deputy  
Don Woods, Captain  
Cynthia Jefferson, Director  
Colby Benson, Sergeant  
Shane Dejarnett, Lieutenant  
Brandon Ragan, Captain  
Danielle Kessler, Police Service Officer  
Michael Crabb, Lieutenant  
Saffron, Comfort Canine

Debra Doub, Captain  
Carlos Torres, Chief Deputy  
Kimberly Boothe, Accreditation  
John MacDonald, Sergeant  
Georgene Rye, Director Employee Serv.  
Karen Straight, HRD Manager  
Emma Keyes, HRD Manager  
David Stephens, Sergeant  
Ronald Murdock, Crime Scene Supv.  
Kris Brooks, Master Deputy  
Michelle Guido, Director  
Rosa Rodriguez, Corporal  
Jose Campa, Asst. General Counsel  
Nakia Taylor, Records Director  
Dale Mack, Captain  
Melissa Harrielson, Lieutenant  
Carrie Sedlacek, Training Supervisor  
Daniel Hilley, Sergeant  
Ian Wasserman, Lieutenant  
Connor Doran, Corporal  
Gilberto Gonzalez, Evidence Supervisor  
Kelly Melville, DUI Tech II  
John Veatch, Sergeant  
David Davis, Sergeant  
Tracy Serrano, Manager  
Dennis Ela, Captain  
David Spall, Lieutenant  
Cristian Readdy, Master Deputy  
Nora Lockwood, Administrative Assistant  
Russell Marttila, Deputy  
Anthony Smith, Information Technology  
Pegasus, Comfort Canine

An interview was conducted with Michelle Guido who is the director of the Strategic Communications Division and supervises the agency's public information officers. Ms. Guido provided detailed information on how the agency provides public information and her team's working relationship with the media. Her unit prepares media release information and distributes the information. She discussed the importance of redacting pertinent information as it relates to the investigation and to various State laws involving victims and juvenile information. She discussed how information is coordinated with other law enforcement agencies within Orange County, prior to release, if investigations include outside agencies. She also discussed coordinating information within the agency prior to release.

The Training Section consists of a Skills Development Unit and Academy and Field Training Unit. Personnel within the training unit include Captain Joseph McCollom, Lieutenant Melissa Harrielson, Lieutenant Michelle Shaheed, Training Supervisor Carrie Sedlacek, Sergeant Brian Cassidy, and Sergeant Daniel Hilley. Throughout the interview the entirety of the team was able to answer the team's questions relating to the topics. All training forms, lesson plans and documents were neatly organized. Sergeant Hilley explained the policy on firearms training and discussed approved firearms and less-lethal weapons. He was also able to explain what ammunition is approved, and how an unsafe firearm is removed from service. The training team provided the agency policy on warning shots. Sergeant Brian Cassidy discussed the field training program. Ms. Sedlacek oversees storing all the files for training. Captain McCollom explained the agency's pursuit policy. The team was able to explain their use of force policy, and remedial training procedures. All the instructors were up to date on their certifications. These records are carefully monitored by Ms. Sedlacek. Several lesson plans were reviewed from past in-service trainings, to include electronic control devices and biennial non-lethal weapons training.

Russell Marttila is a deputy in the patrol division and is assigned to District 2. When speaking with Deputy Martilla, it was apparent that he has a great attitude and understanding of the mission of the department. He explained the department's training for firearms and non-lethal weapons he is assigned and discussed the personal protective equipment he has available for use. He provided information about conducting a show-up if needed during an investigation. He described a circumstance where he would utilize a show up, provided examples, described procedures, and included he could not directly or indirectly influence the victim. He was able to accurately explain the field training process and provided an overview of training he has completed for the Field Training Officer duties. He discussed the documentation that a field training officer completes through daily observation reporting, and some of the training items that are discussed with the recruit throughout the program. He discussed the agency's pursuit practices, and his knowledge of the vehicle pursuit scenarios, including evaluation from the initiating member, the roles with additional members if a pursuit me the level to be authorized under agency policy. Deputy Marttila was found to have a firm understanding of his job and effective measures to train new officers.

Danielle Kessler is a civilian Police Service Officer and works in the Administrative Office of the substation in Sector Two. Ms. Kessler has duties of meeting with the public and handling requests from citizens who inquire at the substation. She conducts preliminary background checks for citizen ride-alongs with agency members and ensures that the citizen has completed the process prior to being authorized to ride with a deputy.

Ms. Nora Lockwood, administrative assistant, and Captain Brandon Ragan provided a tour of the Sector 2 substation. They discussed the use of the interview rooms and their constant monitoring of the rooms by deputies while in use. Captain Ragan discussed the patrol services, investigations, and other law enforcement capabilities that occur within sector 2, the eastern portion of Orange County.

Information regarding the agency's use of canines was provided by Lieutenant Timothy Farmer, Sergeant David Stephens and Corporal Robert Lees who oversee the canine unit. They were able to explain the duties and responsibilities of their specific roles as supervisors and the roles of the various disciplines of canine squads within the agency. They identified the training requirements for the canine handlers. Sergeant David Stephens was able to explain how handlers deploy their canines. He also explained the process of becoming a handler and the initial training the handler and canines must go through. Proof of deployment documentation was reviewed and completed accurately.

Lieutenant Chris Hall and Master Deputy Kris Brooks were interviewed concerning bomb-related incidents and are bomb technicians with the agency's High Risk Incident Command (HRIC) Unit. They explained the role of members obtaining details of the bomb threat, completing the bomb threat assessment, notification of personnel inside and outside the agency, perimeters, and post-blast procedures. The specialized equipment was provided for observation and included several HRIC vehicles, robots, a disposal container, and safety gear assigned for bomb related calls. Lieutenant Hall explained that as a prerequisite all Bomb Technician members are required to attend an 80-hour hazmat school put on by FEMA before being able to actively participate in an active scenario. After that certification members continue training at the FBI hazardous devices school and other advanced training programs.

During a visit to the agency's DUI Center, DUI Testing Supervisor Osvaldo Caner and DUI Technician Kelly Melville were interviewed and gave a tour of the facility. The holding areas were clean and there was adequate lighting and air conditioning. The lockable weapon storage area was observed. Surveillance cameras were located in both holding cells as well as in the DUI testing rooms. The temporary evidence storage refrigerator was temperature controlled and had an alarm to alert the supervisor. There were signs advising of the separation of juveniles as well as signs if the detainee were to become ill to advise the officers present. Corporal Evan Avila provided an unmarked patrol vehicle for observation. The vehicle was clean, and all lights and sirens were operational, and he was able to provide all necessary patrol items for his specific duties.

At the Evidence Facility, Evidence Supervisors Timere Mazion and Gilberto Gonzalez provided a tour. Throughout the tour, it was noted by the assessment team that the entire facility was very clean and organized. The refrigerator storage area had alarms and temperature monitors. When the system fails the alarm alerts both supervisors. The facility was very secure with limited access and requiring additional access methods to enter into certain areas such as where drugs, jewelry and firearms are kept. Supervisor Mazion was able to provide documents showing chain of custody. Both Supervisors Mazion and Gonzalez were able to explain the evidence process and show how each of the processes works with their team. The evidence facility has over one million items to date with a constant in and out flow of items. To further their ability to locate and monitor items within the facility, the agency utilizes an RFID system.

Captain Dale Mack and Lieutenant Michael Harman were interviewed regarding the agency's investigation of complaints against its members. They advised upon receiving the complaint, a file is created utilizing software IA Pro/BlueTeam. Minor complaints, such

as discourtesy, can be handled and documented at a supervisory level. Major complaints are assigned to the Professional Standards Division for investigation. During the investigation the officer is made aware of the investigation by policy they are stored electronically with controlled access.

Due to the assessment taking place in July, there were no schools in session, so several pictures of School Crossing Guards were provided which demonstrated the School Crossing Guards were provided with the necessary equipment to conduct their jobs.

An interview regarding criminal investigations was conducted with Corporal Connor Doran, Lieutenant Virginia Ricks, Lieutenant Ian Wasserman, and Corporal Jonathan Kinney. Corporal Doran provided information into the agency's response to investigation of a missing person. Lieutenant Ricks and Lieutenant Wasserman discussed the agency's investigative policy regarding domestic violence and the construction and administration of photo-lineup and interviewing juvenile suspects and conducting juvenile investigations. They also discussed the security of information regarding investigations and the measures the department utilizes to secure case files and information. Corporal Kinney discussed sexual violence and knew the procedures outlined in department policy. He outlined a follow-up investigation regarding sexual violence cases including completion of a supplemental report from any involved member of organization.

Corporal Rosa Rodriguez, Sergeant Harry Prochet, Assistant General Counsel (AGC), Cristal Maisonet and Assistant General Counsel Jose Campa were interviewed in reference to Risk Protection Orders (RPO). Assistant General Counsel Maisonet advised RPOs are normally started by Patrol, once the paperwork is received, the AGC reviews the paperwork and if it is sufficient they petition the court for the RPO which must be done within 14 days. If it is granted by the courts, the Behavior Response Unit will serve the RPO. Surrendered weapons and ammunition are inventoried and taken into evidence. Ms. Maisonet advised families are notified that the RPO is set to expire 30 days in advance, the system electronically reminds them to send the notification. Ms. Maisonet and Mr. Campa provided information regarding the agency's procedures for forfeiture of items such as vehicles, cash, and property.

Sergeants David Davis and John Veatch, Master Deputy Chad Barnett and Captain Don Woods conducted the tour of the courthouse and holding areas located in Orlando. Sergeant Davis advised prisoners/detainees are received from the Orange County Department of Corrections. The OCSO does not house them or operate the detention facility. He advised the prisoner/detainee is held either in the jury box when jurors are not present, or they are sitting at the defendant's table in the courtroom. This is done to prevent the prisoner/detainee from having contact with the public. Sergeant Davis advised once they are received at the courthouse, the Detention Department officer searches the inmate upon entry into the facility, then the OCSO deputy searches the inmate when they are placed into the holding area. Sergeant Davis advised female deputies supervise female prisoners/detainees and male deputies supervise male prisoners/detainees. He further advised they do not place juveniles in their holding cells; the juveniles are taken directly to the courtroom by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). He advised DJJ always maintains custody of juveniles. Observation of the holding areas showed

adequate lighting, circulation of fresh air and fire suppression equipment. Security check sheets were posted on the outside glass of each holding cell. Procedures for obtaining assistance during a medical emergency written in English and Spanish were posted on the wall inside the holding areas. Weapons lockers, alert systems, and security alarm system were observed to be in good working order.

Interviews were conducted with Records Manager Arnell Williams and Records Director Nakia Taylor. They advised records are maintained electronically and that the system is password protected, and each user has a unique log in with certain access rights built into their role. They too are required to use dual authentication as an extra safeguard against unauthorized access. They advised only certain members have access and the ability to seal or expunge records. The Records Section was in a secure area of the Central Operations Center and required key card access to gain entry and only authorized members keycards are active for entry. Fingerprints and photos of juveniles are handled by the Orange Regional Juvenile Justice Center, and they are not kept by the OCSO. John Farrell, Accreditation Manager, proved compliance by pulling up several juvenile records, all the files he retrieved did not contain a picture or fingerprints and were labeled with a "J" to indicate the record contained juvenile information.

Captain Dennis Ela and Sergeant Colby Benson discussed safeguarding the agency's intelligence information, and the password protections that are in place limiting access to the information. They also discussed the sensitivity of open investigations and the need to preserve the confidentiality of case files. Sergeant Benson provided various ways that intelligence is vetted and investigated by the Threat Assessment Unit. Captain Ela provided how information related to drug investigations is evaluated, utilized and disseminated to the correct unit for investigation.

Dennis Ela is a captain within the Narcotics Unit and is also the manager of the agency's confidential funds and files regarding active confidential informants. He discussed how members of the Criminal Investigations Unit request funds, criteria for their use, and completion of receipts once the funds have been utilized. He provided information on the process for quarterly audits of the funds and procedures for reporting the use of the funds. He spoke about the policy on payment to confidential informants. He was found to be knowledgeable about the policy and reporting measures that must be completed when funds are utilized. He spoke about limits for payment and approvals needed to pay informants over certain amounts. He provided information about the limited access to the confidential informant files and the security and storage of the files which was also observed.

The Human Resources Unit is in a secured area of the OCSO Central Operations Center. Director Georgene Rye advised the psychological files are stored electronically in IA Pro Blue. Occupational exposures and medical records are also stored electronically. They advised personnel records are maintained electronically and that the system is password protected with dual authentication needed for logging on. Karen Straight, HRD Manager, advised each user has a unique log in with certain access rights built into their role. She further advised only certain members in Human Resources and Risk Management have access to psychological and medical information. When asked about the exposure control

plan, Karen Straight advised all members have access to Exposure Control Training via the PowerDMS software. She further advised, members are issued Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) upon being hired, it is replaced as needed and the Central Operations Center as well as all the sector stations are outfitted with additional PPE should a member need replacement. The Human Resources Section was in a secure area of the Central Operations Center and required key card access to gain entry.

Communications Manager, Tracy Serrano, conducted the tour of the Communications Center located in Winter Park. Security measures are in place, and all visitors had to sign a log prior to gaining admittance to the Communications Center. She advised the agency is certified to teach the Department of Health's Public Safety Telecommunications Curriculum and that all Communications Center members complete the state certification process in-house and are recertified every other year. Ms. Serrano advised all Communications members must complete classroom training then take the state exam and upon successful completion are assigned to the floor to begin their call taker training. Ms. Serrano advised Communications members have access to agency members' phone numbers through Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), they receive the patrol lineup electronically daily, and they can monitor the deputies via global positioning systems (GPS). Visitors are required to sign out when leaving the facility.

Ronald Murdock and Sarah Koerber provided a tour of the Forensics/Crime Scene Unit located at the Central Operations Center. The area was well lit, clean and organized. There were multiple eye wash stations, boxes of different sized gloves and sharps disposal boxes located throughout the area. They advised sharps container disposal boxes and eye washing stations are located at each sector station and Fleet. The Forensics/Crimes Scene Unit was in a secure area of the Central Operations Center and required key card access to gain entry and only authorized members' keycards are active for entry.

Anthony Smith, working at the Information Technology Help Desk Office, was interviewed in reference to removing a member who is no longer affiliated with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. He gave a detailed description from receiving the notification a member has separated from the agency, removing their access from the system, collecting their Information Technology issued equipment, cross checking to ensure all Information Technology issued equipment is received, scrubbed and when possible placed back into inventory. He advised separated members must be removed within 30 days, but they are removed as soon as they receive the notification paperwork.

Lieutenant Michael Crabb discussed traffic enforcement and provided an overview of Operation "No Donuts" that combats illegal street takeovers by groups of people who gather to perform illegal and dangerous stunts with their vehicles. These stunts include speeding, drifting, and other reckless driving maneuvers. Agency members were instrumental in advocating legislative changes to curb illegal street takeovers and street racing. In 2024, Senate Bill 1764 was implemented that increased fines and criminal penalties for street racing. The Orange County Sheriff's Office has been conducting

proactive operations to target illegal street takeovers since 2023 and had often collaborated with the Florida Highway Patrol and Orlando Police Department to enhance their efforts.

During the assessment the assessment team was able to converse with numerous sworn and civilian members at the OCSO. All personnel that the assessment team encountered were extremely eager to be interviewed and knowledgeable about agency operations. All personnel, sworn and civilian, were carrying out the mission of the agency and the process of accreditation seems engrained in the organization.

The bulk of the assessors' interactions during the assessment were with John Farrell and the staff of the Quality Assurance Division, Heather Dublonsky and Kimberly Booth. John Farrell is very knowledgeable in accreditation principles, was very professional throughout the assessment, and responsive to the needs of the team. He has been working to transfer his knowledge of accreditation to the rest of the team to ensure future success for the organization. The Quality Assurance Division's assistance, coordination, and accommodation during the assessment were exceptional.

On July 23, 2025, the assessment team completed the file review and interviews and participated in an exit interview, which was attended by Orange County Sheriff's Office members: Undersheriff Mark Canty, Chief Deputy Denise Demps, Chief Deputy Carlos Torres, John Farrell, Captain Debra Doub, Heather Dublonsky, Kimberly Boothe, and Sergeant John MacDonald. The assessors thanked the agency for their hospitality, transparency, and commitment to the accreditation process. The assessors highlighted their observations during the assessment and the file review process, and informed the agency regarding their effective accreditation product, and the recommendation of excelsior reaccreditation from the assessment team members.

- E. Standards Noncompliance Discussion:** None.
- F. Corrective Action Discussion:** None.
- G. Standards Elected for Exemption:** None.
- H. Standards Verified by the Team as Waiver Applicable:** None.
- I. Standards Verified by the Team as Not Applicable to the Agency:**

27.11M	27.16M	31.01M
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- J. Standards with a Status Changed by Assessors:** None.
- K. Public Information Activities:** None.

## **L. Exemplary Policies/Projects/Procedures:**

The OCSO played a significant role in advocating legislative change, which aimed to curb illegal street takeovers and street racing. These events often involve dangerous stunts and high-speed driving, posing serious risks to participants, spectators, and innocent bystanders. Crashes can result in injuries or fatalities. Street takeovers block intersections and major roads, causing significant traffic congestion and delays for commuters and emergency vehicles. Sheriff John Mina made this one of his legislative priorities for 2024. Senate Bill 1764 includes several key provisions:

- **Increased Penalties:** The bill increases fines and criminal penalties for street racing and street takeovers. For example, a second offense within a year can result in a \$4,000 fine and loss of driver's license for two years.
- **Felony Charges:** The bill makes a second offense a felony and adds a felony charge for interfering with emergency vehicles during street takeovers.
- **Community Impact:** The OCSO has been actively involved in community outreach to educate the public about the dangers of street takeovers and encourage reporting of such activities.
- **Law Enforcement Collaboration:** The OCSO has partnered with other law enforcement agencies, such as the Florida Highway Patrol and the Orlando Police Department, to enhance their efforts. This collaboration allows for a more coordinated and effective response to street takeover events.

Since early 2023, the OCSO has conducted numerous proactive operations targeting illegal street takeovers. These operations involve ticketing and arresting reckless drivers, street racers, and event spectators.

During a recent operation, OCSO and FHP personnel stopped 227 vehicles, issued 489 citations, including 477 for spectating, and eight individuals were arrested.

The OCSO has engaged in community outreach programs to educate the public about the dangers and consequences of street takeovers. This includes encouraging residents to report any suspicious activities and providing information on how to stay safe during these events.

## **M. Summary and Recommendation:**

The assessment team found the Orange County Sheriff's Office in compliance with 92 applicable mandatory and one applicable other than mandatory standards. The team verified three standards as not applicable by function. The agency did not elect any non-mandatory standards for exemption. There were no instances of corrective action or non-compliance.

After thorough review by the assessment team, the OCSO was found to have a solid commitment to the accreditation process. This commitment was apparent when interacting with members of the agency, touring facilities, and reviewing files. Members of the agency were found to be engaged in the accreditation process and driven to provide

excellent, professional, and dedicated service to the residents and visitors of Orange County and its community partners. The agency's members, values, practices, and leadership of various units displayed an integration of best practices as a part of the daily mission.

As a result of this assessment, the assessment team unanimously recommends that OCSO be considered by the Commission for Excelsior reaccreditation status.

Submitted by Matthew Fletcher  
Team Leader