

CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Sheriff Kristin Graziano
3691 Leeds Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29405



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CCSO again achieves Triple Crown accreditation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, Aug. 26, 2022

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – The Al Cannon Detention Center recently was awarded re-accreditation through the American Correctional Association, achieving 100% compliance with all standards.

The accomplishment means the Charleston County Sheriff's Office remains accredited in three areas of operation. In addition to detention accreditation through the ACA, CCSO's law enforcement division is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, and its detention medical operations are accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Healthcare.

CCSO first achieved this Triple Crown Award from the National Sheriffs' Association in 2013. Though it is a one-time award, the Triple Crown is re-awarded if the agency achieves the three accreditation distinctions under a new sheriff. The honor under Sheriff Kristin Graziano was formally announced during a presentation in June at the NSA conference in Missouri.

The Triple Crown is a rare achievement. Since 1992, fewer than 80 sheriff's offices nationwide have reached it, and CCSO is the only one in South Carolina. CCSO takes pride in maintaining standards that make it a world-class agency. Ensuring those standards are met is one way of ensuring our community's needs are met.

"I am proud of the men and women that work for this agency," Sheriff Graziano said. "The Charleston County Sheriff's Office continually goes above and beyond the call to safely and efficiently serve the community. There is not a challenge we aren't willing to meet, and I believe that these accomplishments demonstrate our team's exceptionalism."

Auditors visited the Detention Center in March, interviewing staff and facility residents. They examined 383 separate standards, all of which were met. Audit panel Chairperson Katherine

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Brown said, "It is apparent during our inspection that your staff takes pride and ownership in their roles. They are extremely professional and dedicated to their profession."

The ACA's accrediting body, the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections, is made up of professionals from all areas of the field, including adult and juvenile detention, community corrections, probation, parole and correctional health services. The commission aims to improve operations through clear standards that apply to all facility operations, including safety, security, order, care, programs, justice and administration.

CCSO received the accreditation certificate Aug. 7 at the ACA's Congress of Correction conference in Louisiana. It was the third re-accreditation for the Detention Center.



Stephanie Lipsey, accreditation coordinator at the AI Cannon Detention Center, and Charleston County Sheriff Kristin Graziano hold the Triple Crown Award in the Detention Center lobby.

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Al Cannon Detention Center staff receive the American Correctional Association accreditation certificate in early August at a Louisiana conference.

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