

NLC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

LOSS CONTROL MANAGEMENT BULLETIN

December 9, 2008

COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES APPROVES RECOMMENDED FITNESS/WELLNESS STANDARD

Risk Probe, Inc. has just been informed by CALEA Commissioner Col. Gayle Cameron that the full Board of Commissioners has unanimously accepted the Standards Review and Interpretations Committee's recommendation to include a proactive fitness and wellness standard in the national accreditation requirements. The new standard specifically identifies core criteria in such a program. The criteria are those contained in the Model Program developed in 2002 by the national law enforcement Task Group chaired by Risk Probe on behalf of NLC Mutual.

The new standard has been circulated for comment by all CALEA accredited agencies and is expected to be formally adopted at the next general meeting which takes place in Raleigh, NC in March, 2009. It should be noted that this is a voluntary standard due to the fact that a small percentage of agencies have installed mandatory programs. Also, the Fraternal Order of Police in 2002 agreed to support the Task Group's efforts on the condition that the Model Program be designated as voluntary. However, its inclusion in the national accreditation requirements is a major step forward in our effort to bring this issue into focus among all public safety personnel.

We are especially grateful to both John E. (Jay) Smith, Jr., FitForce, the North Carolina League of Municipalities and David D. Cashwell of David D. Cashwell and Associates Consulting Services, for the support and assistance they have provided during this prolonged but successful fitness and health initiative. Now the challenge will be to accelerate the momentum the new standard will generate by developing attractive incentives to spur its widespread adoption. The timing seems excellent with the expected ratcheting up of interest in national health care promotion.

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