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MEDIA RELEASE

National Public Safety TeleCommunications Week April 14–20th

April 14-20th, 2013 is National Public Safety TeleCommunications Week. During this week the dedicated employees of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center (HRECC) are recognized. Public Safety TeleCommunicators are the "First, First Responders"; protecting the lives and property of the citizens and visitors of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County by quickly and effectively answering 9-1-1 calls and dispatching responders hundreds of times each day.

Below is a list of useful links and references to local, state and national attention for 2013 National Public Safety TeleCommunicator Week:

- HRECC Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/HarrisonburgRockinghamECC>
- Harrisonburg, Rockingham County and Virginia Governor Proclamations: *attached below*
- "NTW" by 911dispatch.com: <http://www.911dispatch.com/info/ntw/>

As part of this week, the HRECC will be selecting one very special employee as the 2012 TeleCommunicator of the Year. The employee is recognized for exemplary service and contribution to the Public Safety TeleCommunications profession during the past year. The award ceremony will occur on Wednesday April 17th, 3:00 p.m. at the HRECC. The media is invited and encouraged to attend.

Finally, look for a News Release forthcoming about our 9-1-1 Display on Friday April 19th and Saturday April 20th in the Belk Court at the Valley Mall, 1925 East Market Street in Harrisonburg. The theme is "9-1-1: Help us Find You".

Please contact ECC Director Jim Junkins at JLJunkins@HRECC.org or 540-820-6911 if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

PUBLIC-SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR WEEK

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all Virginians are important to our great Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the availability of 9-1-1 assistance is integral to the peace of mind of each individual and the security of all communities; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of dedicated telecommunicators daily serve the citizens of Virginia by answering their request for law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services by dispatching the appropriate assistance as quickly as possible; and

WHEREAS, the professional public safety telecommunicator is that vital link between the citizen or victim and the public safety provider; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated public safety telecommunicators throughout Virginia handle over four million calls to 9-1-1 each year; and

WHEREAS, it is important for the public to be aware of the responsibility to properly use 9-1-1 services by calling only when lives or property are in peril thus increasing the efficiency of the system and improving the chances that lives will be saved;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize April 14-20, 2013 as **PUBLIC-SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR WEEK** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

Office of the Mayor

345 South Main Street
Post Office Box 20031
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
(540) 432-7701 / FAX (540) 432-7778

Ted Byrd
Mayor

PROCLAIMING APRIL 14-20, 2013 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK

WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at anytime that require police, fire or emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of police officers, firefighters and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our police officers and firefighters is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety TeleCommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety TeleCommunicators are the single vital link for our police officers and firefighters by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety; and

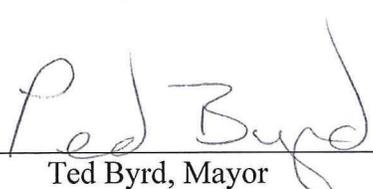
WHEREAS, Public Safety TeleCommunicators of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and treatment of patients; and

WHEREAS, each Public Safety TeleCommunicator has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year;

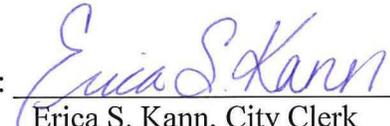
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Ted Byrd, Mayor of the City of Harrisonburg, do hereby proclaim the week of April 14th through 20th, 2013 to be **National Public-Safety Telecommunications Week** in Harrisonburg, VA, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keeps our City and citizens safe.

Signed this 9 day of April, 2013.

BY: _____


Ted Byrd, Mayor

Attest: _____


Erica S. Kann, City Clerk



JOSEPH S. PAXTON
County Administrator



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

PABLO CUEVAS

Election District No. 1

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Election District No. 5

Proclamation

National Public Safety Telecommunications Week April 14-20, 2013

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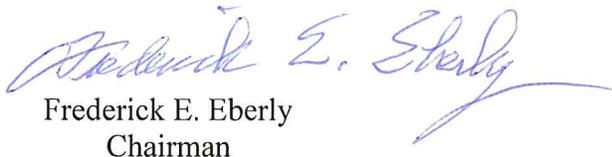
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WHEREAS, each Public Safety TeleCommunicator has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that the County of Rockingham declares the week of April 14th through 20th, 2013 to be National Public-Safety Telecommunications Week in Rockingham County, Virginia, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keeps our County and citizens safe.

Given under my hand this 10th day of April
in the year two thousand thirteen, A.D.


Frederick E. Eberly
Chairman

20 EAST GAY STREET, HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22802

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Website: www.rockinghamcountyva.gov