

RESOLUTION NO. 17-147

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE 2017 "JOINT POSITION STATEMENT OF THE BROWARD COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION AND FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION OF BROWARD COUNTY CONSOLIDATED E911 COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM", AND PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Regional E911 Communications System is a complex stem and comprised not only of the Public Service Answering Points ("PSAPs", commonly understood as the E911 communications centers) within the E911 Communications System, but also radios utilized by first responders and governmental agencies in the field, radio towers in support thereof, supportive and necessary hardware and software technology in both the PSAPs and in the field, personnel who serve as communicators in the PSAPs, hospitals, and trauma professionals and so many other components; and

WHEREAS, superior performance, transparency of performance reporting, oversight of the system by those who have appropriate public safety experience and expertise commensurate with the complexity of the system is crucial not only to meet the life and property saving mission, but also for the safety of our first responders and for public confidence in the E911 system overall; and

WHEREAS, the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association and Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County have adopted a Joint Position Statement ("Joint Statement") which includes recommendations for the Broward County Charter Review Commission to support Charter amendments creating a Public Safety Communications Advisory Council and an Office of the Director of Public Safety Communications; and

WHEREAS, the Broward County Charter Review Commission has convened to address potential Charter changes to the Broward County Charter; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale, supports the Joint Statement and urges the Broward County Charter Review Commission to consider the recommendations proposed in the Joint Statement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the foregoing recitals are hereby ratified and incorporated as the legislative intent of this Resolution:

1. The City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida hereby supports the "Joint Position Statement of the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association and Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County Consolidated E911 Communications System" and urges the Broward County Charter Review Commission to adopt the recommendations proposed within the Joint Statement and place such recommendations on the 2018 ballot for consideration by the voters of Broward County. A copy of the Joint Statement is attached hereto and made part of this Resolution as Exhibit "A".

2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Broward County Commission, the Broward Sheriff's Office, the Broward County Consolidation Communications Committee, the Broward County Charter Review Commission, and all Broward County municipalities.

SECTION 2. Effective Date: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon final passage.

ADOPTED this the 11th day of July, 2017.



Mayor
JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER

ATTEST:



City Clerk
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI



Broward County
Chiefs of Police Association
Hillsboro Beach Police Department - 1210 Hillsboro Mile Suite B
Hillsboro Beach, FL 33062

Joint Position Statement of the
 Broward County Chiefs of Police Association
 and Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County
 Consolidated E911 Communications Systems
 June 15, 2017

Police Chief Thomas Nagy, President

Fire Chief Thomas Dibernardo, President

This Joint Position Statement has been adopted by both the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association and the Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County as part of our continuing commitment to the construction and implementation of a successful countywide Regional E911 Consolidated Communication System (hereinafter referred to as "Regional E911 Communication System).

Our Joint Position Statement is offered in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration. Our common goal is to better ensure the long term stability of the Regional E911 Communication System and all of its components.

General Statement of Improvements and Successes

At the outset, it is important to highlight just a few of the successes of the new regional E911 system:

- Consolidated 11 separate PSAPs into 3 PSAPs, all of which have the capacity to "talk" to each other and to shift call handling and dispatching responsibilities depending on loads and needs;
- Consolidated into 3 PSAPs with significant structural and redundancy protections not previously available across all 11 prior centers;
- The virtual elimination of call transfers related to misdirected calls;
- For the first time in Broward County history, there is a transparent performance reporting process across the Regional E911 Communications System, representing over 2 million E911 calls annually; or 7,000 / day (91.56% of all E911 calls within Broward County);
- The Quality Control efforts to address root-cause analysis has provided opportunities to implement operational improvements across the entire Regional E911 Communications System;
- The recent introduction of the next generation CAD system has allowed for improvements to call taking, call handling and dispatching functions;
- The creation of a joint police and fire operational review committee;

<p>PRESIDENT Chief Thomas Nagy Hillsboro Beach Police Department 1210 Hillsboro Mile Hillsboro Beach, FL 33062 (954) 427-6600 tnagy@townofhillsborobeach.com</p>	<p>VICE PRESIDENT Chief W. Howard Harrison Plantation Police Department 451 NW 70 Terrace Plantation, FL 33317 (954) 797-2171 hharrison@psd.plantation.org</p>	<p>SECRETARY Chief Anthony Pustizzi Coral Springs Police Department 2801 Coral Springs Drive Coral Springs, FL 33071 tpustizzi@coralsprings.org</p>	<p>TREASURER Chief Dana Watson Margate Police Department 5790 Margate Boulevard Margate, FL 33063 (954) 935-5412 dwatson@margatefl.com</p>	<p>SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Chief Tomas Sanchez Hollywood Police Department 3250 Hollywood Boulevard Hollywood, FL 33021 (954) 764-4357 tsanchez@hollywoodfl.org</p>
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The County retained Fitch & Associates to evaluate the Regional E911 Communications System. Fitch & Associates issued a Report which made specific findings and proposed recommendations. The Fitch & Associates report highlights what we believe is a critical issue that has challenged the Regional E911 Communication System from its inception: County Administration and the Office of Regional Communications and Technology (ORCAT) making operational decisions when they have no operational expertise in E911 call taking, police and fire/rescue dispatching, and the operational requirements of the police and fire/rescue services. We believe the proper mission of the ORCAT is to fully support the operator of the system and participating municipalities.

For the past few years, The Broward County Consolidated Communications Committee, a committee created by the Board of County Commissioners, has provided an important opportunity for stakeholders and the public to have input and oversight, as well as a level of transparency related to performance of the entire Communications system. This level of engagement by the stakeholders and level of transparency related to performance was unprecedented historically and represented a predicate condition to support confidence from the stakeholders. While the Fitch & Associates report has recommended this Committee could be sunset if all the recommendations contained in the Fitch & Associates report were implemented, the institutionalization of the engagement and transparency features of such a Committee furthers the goals of the Regional E911 Communications System.

Also, notably, the Fire Rescue Standards Council, initiated as part of Charter Section 5.03, has been the subject of some discussion related to a potential sunset opportunity. The BCCPA does not take a position in this regard. However, the Fire Chiefs Association notes that the remaining mission of the Fire Rescue Standards Council could be migrated to a broader public safety advisory council, thereby eliminating some duplication and reducing any cost impact.

Therefore, The Broward County Chiefs of Police Association and the Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County strongly encourage the Broward County Charter Review Commission to support a County Charter Amendment for the creation of a Public Safety Communications Advisory Council. The advisory council should be comprised of thirteen (13) members as follows:

- Broward County Chiefs of Police Association (2)
- Broward County Fire Chiefs Association (2)
- Broward Sheriff’s Office (2)
- Broward County City-County Manager’s Association (1)
- Trauma Management Agency (1)
- EMS Council (1)
- Fire Rescue Council (1) [NEED A SUBSTITTUE IF ROLL UP/SUNSET]
- Business Community (1)
- County Administration represented by a Director of Public Safety Communications;
- Broward League of Cities (1)

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The Public Safety Communications Advisory Council's duties would be to:

- Review and analyze performance metrics and overall performance of the Consolidated E911 system and all of its components;
- Review and analyze the emergency and public safety radio system performance;
- Review and analyze the regional law and fire records management systems;
- Review and analyze the regional computer aided dispatch system;
- Coordinate and collaborate with municipalities to ensure maximum countywide involvement of all stakeholders;
- Provide recommendations to maintain and provide advancements in the area of Public Safety Communications;
- Remaining mission points of the Fire Rescue Standards Council.

The mission of the Public Safety Communication Advisory Council is similar to the mission of the Fire-Rescue Council, not to make operational decisions or supplant the experts in public safety, but rather to facilitate the necessary intersection of the many stakeholders in the overall performance of the Regional E911 Communications System.

Additionally, a central philosophy for success of regionalization and consolidation of E911 services is that the day-to-day operation of the system must be predominately the responsibility of the public safety professionals; this is a key component of other models of consolidation.

However, as noted by various stakeholders over the past few years, as well as in the Fitch & Associates report, a source of continuing lack of confidence has been the role of the County Administration, through ORCAT, in operational public safety decisions. Notably, ORCAT has limited public safety experience and the responsible County Administrators have none.

Yet, the Regional E911 Communications System is a very complex and integrated system, which includes not only the E911 infrastructure housed at the consolidated sites, but also the integration of radio systems of the municipal and other governmental entities, radio towers, issues of linkage to the emergency medical services, crisis and disaster management.

Currently, the operator is the Broward Sheriff's Office. So long as there is a division of responsibility between the County and BSO, where the County Administration has funding and oversight responsibility, there is a need for significant public safety expertise on the part of the County Administration. Therefore, based upon the current structure of responsibility, The Broward County Chiefs of Police Association and the Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County further encourage the Broward County Charter Review Commission to support a County Charter Amendment for the creation of an Office of the Director of Public Safety Communications.

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The Broward Chiefs recommend that the Director of Public Safety Communications have demonstrated applicable experience within the public safety field. This requirement will guarantee maximum knowledge of the operational support and best practices which, are vital to ensure overall efficiency and success of the consolidated system.

The Director of Public Safety Communications shall be appointed by the County Commission and shall report directly to the County Commission. The director shall have the responsibility to administer the consolidated communications system in its entirety.

The Director of Public Safety Communications duties would be to:

- Provide for the administration of the Consolidated Communications System for Broward County;
- Provide technological support to the operator and participating municipalities for all consolidated communications systems and functions;
- Oversee performance metrics and overall operational performance of the Consolidated E911 system and the supportive regional system(s);
- Review and analyze the emergency and public safety radio system performance;
- Review and analyze the regional law and fire records management systems;
- Review and analyze the regional computer aided dispatch system;
- Coordinate and collaborate with municipalities to ensure maximum countywide involvement of all stakeholders;
- Provide recommendations to maintain and provide advancements in the area of Public Safety Communications.

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