

## **Hunterdon Prosecutor's Office Training Local Law Enforcement On Mapping Software For Schools**

Hunterdon County Prosecutor Anthony P. Kearns, III, announced the Prosecutor's Office will be training law enforcement officers on a new structural mapping software which will be used to enhance security at Hunterdon County schools and buildings, and that all five County High Schools have signed up for the security program.

Prosecutor Kearns stated, "This is a joint effort by the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, local law enforcement, school administrators, and the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office to enhance response time and improve command and control during critical incidents. This new technology is beginning to be used in facilities across the country, ranging from elementary schools and colleges campuses, to government buildings and airports."

Freeholder Board Deputy Director John E. Lanza, the Board's Public Safety liaison, said, "The fact that all of the County's high schools are now participating with the mapping technology demonstrates that our school boards and superintendents place the same importance on the program as the Freeholders. I applaud the Prosecutor's Office for moving forward in ensuring our law enforcement community is trained as expeditiously as possible in the use of the technology."

The Hunterdon County Freeholder Board provided funding for the program in 2018. The first training session for Hunterdon County law enforcement was conducted by Prosecutor Office staff on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Prosecutor Kearns added, "We have been working with our school superintendents and to date all five high schools and a majority of middle and elementary schools have been mapped out and are being integrated into the program. Our hope is that we will have one hundred percent compliance of all schools in Hunterdon County. It is imperative that we give law enforcement and first responders the tools necessary to keep our children and community safe."

The digital structure mapping software, provided by Collaborative Response Graphic (CRG), is used by law enforcement officers, fire departments, and other emergency responders to coordinate emergency response both outside and inside a building.

The graphics combine aerial imagery, building floor plans, and critical features into a geospatially accurate, gridded smart graphic. These graphics will allow first responders from different agencies that have never been to the location to communicate using a common language and common operating picture. The plans are then made available to first responders through a secure, web based app on their smart phones or mobile device.

The app will let the first responders visualize their location on the actual floor plan, and allow incident commanders to better coordinate the scene because assets can be tracked in real time.