

**Board of Chosen Freeholders**

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**DATE: December 9, 2020****Contact: Matt Holt, Freeholder**jmholt@co.hunterdon.nj.us**Hunterdon County's 9-1-1 Dispatchers Recognized By International****Public Safety Organization For Diligence On The Job**

Hunterdon County's Communications Division, the 9-1-1 dispatch center, was recognized by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) for their consistent dedication and distinguished service during the COVID-19 pandemic, Freeholder Matt Holt reported at a recent Freeholder meeting.

Freeholder Holt, the Board's liaison to the County Public Safety Department, said, "Communications operators have been an integral part of the front lines team during the pandemic. Their dedication to the community has been highlighted by the fact that they haven't been able to work remotely, showing up for each and every shift, serving all of us here in Hunterdon County."

APCO International is the world's oldest and largest organization of public safety communication professionals. The Association serves the needs of public safety communications practitioners worldwide, and the welfare of the general public as a whole, by providing complete expertise, professional development, technical assistance, advocacy and outreach.

Freeholder Holt continued, "Each Hunterdon County communications staff member has been bestowed a challenge coin and congratulatory note from APCO. The Freeholder Board and I congratulate Public Safety Director, George Wagner, and Division Head, James Curry, and all of the staff at the Communications Center for their worthy recognition by APCO."

James Curry, Communications Division Head, said, "Part of each dispatcher's responsibility is showing up to work each day. Each 9-1-1 dispatcher recognized the importance of their personal health, following precautions and guidelines in the workplace to maintain their good health, because without them answering calls, nobody in Hunterdon County (emergency services) is going anywhere."

9-1-1 dispatchers continue to be on the job and working for the residents of Hunterdon County.