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April 27, 2015

Mr. Jim Junkins,

At the E-911 Services Board meeting held on March 12, 2015, the Policy Committee was directed to define and create a Regional Advisory Council. The Virginia Chapters of APCO and NENA support this initiative, and request consideration that the E-911 Services Board establishes a Regional Advisory Council that will provide advice and recommendations on the thematic areas identified in the NG9-1-1 Feasibility Study, as well as to increase awareness and support of outreach efforts regarding the entire 9-1-1 ecosystem. The primary deliverable of this effort is to provide guidance and advice to the E-911 Services Board and ISP staff.

The recommended Advisory Council representatives should consist of the following: One PSAP employee representative from each of the seven Public Safety and Homeland Security regions adopted by the Commonwealth (one PSAP representative would be appointed Chairperson of the group by the Board), two GIS subject matter expert (SME) representative from localities heavily engaged in 9-1-1/GIS, two IT/IS SME representatives from PSAP's or a PSAP's parent locality, and one representative each from Virginia APCO and NENA. It is further recommended that the Policy Board consider defining the length of term for a Regional Advisory Council member, possible staggering of these terms to provide continuity, and the implementation of an application process to fill vacancies. As new initiatives, challenges, and workload of the Board arise in the future, additional sub-committees and work groups should be appointed as required to support the Regional Advisory Council to provide essential and dynamic input.

The Virginia Chapters of APCO and NENA believes this approach ensures early and well-balanced governance during this important evolution of Virginia 9-1-1, while also providing a progressive, neutral, stakeholder-based assistance group to the E-911 Services Board. We appreciate your consideration of this request and stand ready to assist the E-911 Services Board with the implementation of NG9-1-1 in our Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

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Richard Troshak, APCO President

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Derrick S. Ruble, NENA President

c.c. Members of the E9-1-1 Services Board