



**CITY OF LODI
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

AGENDA TITLE: Presentation of Proclamation Proclaiming the Week of April 13-19, 2014, as "National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week"

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2014

PREPARED BY: Chief of Police

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Presentation of proclamation proclaiming the week of April 13-19, 2014, as "National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week."

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is a national event to recognize the men and women who dispatch our police forces, our ambulances and our firefighters. Although they are not as visible as the men and women who arrive at the scene of emergencies, they are equally important to the safety and level of service provided to our community.

Every day, in all of our communities, dedicated public safety telecommunicators answer calls for assistance. They dispatch our calls for help to police and fire departments, facilitating the execution of emergency rescue vehicles and law-enforcement operations in our city.

We depend upon public safety telecommunicators to notify emergency personnel promptly, clearly, and calmly. We depend on them to keep our loved ones calm and assured in an emergency. We depend on them for guidance and support in our most frantic and panicked moments.

The Lodi Police Department has 16 dispatcher/jailers, three Lead dispatchers and one dispatch supervisor working 12-hour shifts. Lodi is one of the very few departments in the state where dispatchers not only staff the Communications Center for business and 911 calls, they also serve as jailers; booking, processing and providing care for prisoners while they await arraignment in court or transfer to other agencies. Several of the dispatchers are also cross-trained to work special assignments such as court liaison, field evidence technicians and members of the Hostage Negotiations Team.

A representative of the Police Department Communications Center will be present to accept the proclamation.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

FUNDING AVAILABLE: Not applicable.

Mark Helms
Chief of Police

MH/pjm

APPROVED:

Stephen Schwabauer, Interim City Manager