

SARATOGA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



INDEX

- Page 2**
Fire Services
- Page 2**
Firefighter Incentives
- Page 3**
EMS Services
- Page 3**
Protecting EMS Providers
- Page 4**
Saratoga County Sheriff's Office
- Page 5**
Hazmat Response Training
- Page 5**
Send Us Your Department Patch
- Page 6**
Radio Templating Project
- Page 6**
General Rules for Radio Use
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CAD, Mobile 9-1-1 Project Commences



Carl Zeilman
Director

Allow me to start by congratulating the new Chairman of the Board of Supervisor's Mo Wright, from the Town of Hadley and the new Public Safety Committee Chairman, Paul Lent from the Town of Galway, on assuming their new roles at the start of the year.

After many months of research, joint meetings and multiple presentations and demonstrations, I am pleased to report to you that we have selected and signed with TriTech System Software as the County's next CAD/Mobile/ 9-1-1 provider.

Designed for multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional agencies and consolidations, TriTech's solution consists of fully integrated 911, computer aided dispatch, mobile data, and records management application. Integrated with a common workflow, the Suite will optimize the way our PSAP, Law, Fire, and EMS agency manages and processes information. We expect the full implementation to take between 12-18 months.

As part of our CAD solution upgrade, the Office of Emergency Services will begin a radio re-templating project that will begin in a few weeks. After all radios are re-programmed a radio refresher training will be provided for all users on the system. More information about this can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.

To continue to provide you with substantive content, we have made some changes to the distribution schedule of the Emergency Services Newsletter, which will now be circulated quarterly. Should you have any suggestions on content related to emergency services, please feel free to share it with our office.

As always, if you have a question, suggestion, or are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office at: 885-2232 or via e-mail: emergencyservices@saratogacountyny.gov.



County Honored for Military Support



BALLSTON SPA, N.Y. --Arthur "Mo" Wright, (second in from left) Chairman of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors (R-Hadley) and Spencer Hellwig, (right) Saratoga County Administrator, receives an Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriotic Award from Carl Zeilman, of Ballston Lake, (far left) a Navy Reserve lieutenant and director of the Office of Emergency Services; and Darlene Stanton (second from right) of the Employer Support Guard and Reserve during a ceremony held on Tuesday, March 8th.

SARATOGA COUNTY FIRE SERVICES



Ed Tremblay, is the Saratoga County Fire Coordinator and Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Services. Ed is also a Life Member of both West Crescent Fire Department and Clifton Park Halfmoon Ambulance. Ed can be reached at: etremblay@saratogacountyny.gov



Cancer Awareness in the Fire Service



Firefighters are significantly more likely to develop many types of cancer than the general population

largely due to the high levels of carcinogens and other toxins found in burning buildings and hazardous environments. Effective education and better maintenance of equipment are essential to lowering the risk of cancer, but a simple

fact remains: Firefighters are being diagnosed with cancer at a disturbingly high rate.

Volunteer firefighters who receive a cancer diagnosis face escalating medical bills and the possibility of lost wages as they become sicker and sicker. There is no formal safety net currently in place to help those volunteer firefighters who need it most.

There is legislation before the New York State Senate and Assembly that would extend presumptive cancer coverage to volunteer firefighters, ensuring that those who have sacrificed on behalf of their communities will not be left searching for help.

It is critical that this legislation passes through the state Senate and Assembly and makes its way to the governor's desk. Protecting New York's volunteer firefighters is not only the right thing to do, but is also the necessary thing to do. To this end, FASNYS urges you to call your State Senator and Assembly Member, and tell them that no firefighter should ever have to face cancer alone.

Cancer is everybody's problem. It impacts each and every member of the fire service and, in turn, FASNYS needs each and every member of the fire service to help share these stories. FASNYS urges you to share this video <http://fasny.com/fight-cancer/> with your friends, your family, your colleagues and on social media.

There is legislation before the New York State Senate and Assembly that would provide the necessary safety net for these brave men and women. Please call your State Senator and Assembly Member <http://www.fasny.com/legislation/your-representatives/> and tell them you support this legislation because no firefighter

County Fire Advisory Board

Fire Advisory Board meetings are open to Fire Chief's from across the County. The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm on Monday, March 28th at the Fire Training Classroom. For a copy of the Meeting Minutes, please visit the Fire Officer's Association website: <http://www.saratogacountyfire.org/>

Incentives Offered By Fire Organizations

Hope this all finds you all well.

I would like to take a moment to point out a few incentives offered by some of the States' Fire Organizations.

Here is a partial list of what the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs has to offer:

- YSAFC Scholarship Program
- Chief Fred W. Singer Fire Educator of the Year Award
- James W. Wright Public Education Award
- NYSAFC Fire Chief of the Year Awards Career and Volunteer

More information on these and others can be found at: <http://www.nysfirechiefs.com/scholarshipsandawards.php>

Each year, FASNYS recognizes achievements in firefighting, EMS, teaching, fire safety education and community service. Here is a partial list of what FASNYS has to offer:

- EMS Provider of the Year
- Gerard J. Bukenmeyer FASNYS Volunteer Scholarship
- Firefighter of the Year
- 50 and 100 year Certificates
- Fire Safety Educator of the Year
- Youth Group of the Year

More information on these and others can be found at: <http://www.fasny.com/awards/>

These awards and programs are there for the taking. Please provide your membership with the program information so they can take advantage of them.

Maybe consider one of your members for the various awards offered.

Spring 2016

SARATOGA COUNTY EMS



Mike McEvoy, PhD, NRP, RN, CCRN is the EMS Coordinator for Saratoga County, paramedic supervisor for Clifton Park & Halfmoon Ambulance, firefighter and chief medical officer for West Crescent Fire and EMS editor for Fire Engineering magazine. He is a nurse clinician in the cardiothoracic surgical ICU at Albany Med where he also teaches critical care medicine and chairs the hospital resuscitation committee. Mike also serves on the EMS Section Board of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the board of the National Registry for EMTs.



Spring 2016 EMS Class



Spring 2016 EMS Classes have all started and include an EMT Original and EMT Refresher Course at Malta-Stillwater EMS and an EMT Original Course for Skidmore students at the College. Information about Fall 2016 classes will post to the Council web site (www.saratogaems.org) during July.

Iam Responding Update

County EMS Coordinator Mike McEvoy terminated the trial use of IamResponding to report crew status in December 2015. The program, which ran from June through December last year, allowed EMS agencies to post their crew availability directly to the IaR system where it was used by Desk Officers in Communications to monitor need for mutual aid. Unfortunately, inaccurate status posting were resulting in dispatch errors. Crew status has now reverted to manual use of a "white board" in the 9-1-1 Center.

Multi Lead Medics Class

Bob Page will be in Malta to run a Multi Lead Medics 12-lead class on March 19 and 20. Information is posted at www.e5supportservices.com/bob-page-12-lead-ekg-seminar/

Protecting EMS Providers

Effective February 18, 2016, assault on an EMT or Paramedic will be elevated to a Class D Felony. Governor Cuomo signed S.4839 into law on November 20th, 2015 in response to ever increasing assaults on EMS providers. The bill text is posted at <http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?sh=printbill&bn=S4839&term=2015>

Radio Tabletop Exercise Conducted

The Office of Emergency Services conducted an 800 MHz radio tabletop exercise on Wednesday, January 13th at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Fire Department. The 2016 Communications Exercise was designed to establish a learning environment for players to validate and discuss redundant communications systems and procedures within the County. Participants were encouraged to participate in facilitated discussions associated with the following modules:



- Module 1: Dispatch Center Offline
- Module 2: 800 MHz System Failure

3-Minute Call Acknowledgement

At the recommendation of the EMS Council, County Coordinator Mike McEvoy implemented a 3-minute call acknowledgement requirement for EMS on March 7th. If no acknowledgement is received indicating intent to respond by the 3-minute mark, calls will be mutual aided. The 5-minute MA point will remain in place and kick in as it presently does. The change will add a requirement that agencies acknowledge all calls within 3 minutes from time of dispatch. More information is available: www.saratogaems.org.

Zika Virus Update

The Zika Virus has captured headlines around the world, alarming many and raising concerns for pregnant women that may (or may not) be justified. A brief and informative training video is available at

www.drc-group.com/project/jitt-awareness-zika.html



Pulse Check Annual Conference

Just a heads up: Pulse Check, the annual conference of the New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association, will be moving from Suffern to Albany this September 29 through October 1. The full program will be announced at: www.nysvara.org/pulseCheck/index.html



SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Castle Appointed New Undersheriff



Sheriff Michael H. Zurlo announced that he has selected Richard L. Castle of Halfmoon, to serve as his Undersheriff.

Castle has been employed with the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office since 1989 and has served for the past two years as Chief of the Law Enforcement Division of the Sheriff's Office. In this capacity he was directly responsible for the day-to-day operations of the patrol division and various administrative functions including oversight of

the 911 Communications Center, the New York State Accreditation Program, and the agency's grant management.

Undersheriff Castle began his career in law enforcement as a dispatcher for the Waterford Police Department in 1988 before being hired by the Sheriff's Office as a Desk Officer in the 911 Center in 1989. In 1991 he was promoted to Deputy Sheriff and attended Session 10 of the Zone 5 Law Enforcement Academy. He was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in 2000, Patrol Lieutenant in 2008 and Chief in 2014. During his time with the Sheriff's Office, Undersheriff Castle has served as the head of the Sheriff's Traffic Safety Unit, lead investigator an instructor for the Sheriff's Collision Reconstruction Unit and systems administrator for Information Technology within the Sheriff's Office. In addition to his duties with the Sheriff's Office he also serves on the Advisory Board of the Zone 5 Law Enforcement Academy in Schenectady. Undersheriff Castle is a graduate of the LaSalle Institute in Troy, NY and holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Safety Management from the State University of New York, various professional certifications, an is a licensed commercial aircraft pilot and Emergency Medical Technician. He resides in the Town of Halfmoon with his wife Catherine and their two young children.

Sheriff Zurlo said, "I have worked with Rick since his early days with the Sheriff's Office and watched him progress through his career. His education, experience, work ethic and commitment to the Sheriff's Office and the residence of our County made him my first choice for Chief when I was elected Sheriff. As Chief he has continued to excel and has played an integral part in all of the positive changes we have made in the Sheriff's Office over the past two years. I can think of no better person to serve as my Undersheriff."

Castle stated, "I am honored and humbled to have been selected to serve as Undersheriff for Saratoga County. We have made great advancements in public safety throughout Saratoga County over the past two years and I look forward to working side by side with Sheriff Zurlo, in support of his vision of keeping Saratoga County a safe place to live, work and raise a family."

Undersheriff Castle will be officially sworn in at a ceremony to be held Friday, March 11, 2016.

Maloney Promoted to Desk Sergeant



Desk Officer Christopher Maloney (center) will be promoted to the rank of Desk Sergeant, according to Sheriff Michael H. Zurlo. Maloney will be officially sworn into his new role at a ceremony on Friday, March 11th. He will be assigned to the mid-night shift. Congratulations, Sergeant!

New Director of SCSO Communications



Steven Gordon was recently appointed to the position Director of Emergency Communications for the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office on January 12th. Gordon, began his career with the Sheriff's Office in 1998 and promoted to Desk Sergeant in 2006 In his new role, Gordon will be responsible for the 9-1-1 Communications Division.

"It is an honor and a privilege to work with the hardworking, dedicated men and women of the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office Communications Division," said Gordon. "Our Communications team is an amazing group to work with. Combined with the seven desk sergeants, who oversee day-to-day operations, we have by far some of the best and brightest 9-1-1 communicators in the State."

Follow the SCSO on Facebook and Twitter

Our Facebook and Twitter pages display press releases as well as additional information on topical issues and breaking stories. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Twitter to stay informed on matters of public interest and safety. Feel free to contact us at (518) 885-6761 or use the Contact Us page on our website to send us an email if you have a tip, comment or suggestion.



Mobile / Portable Radio Service

Did you know that the Office of Emergency Services operates a web portal for reporting all radio (mobile/portable) equipment failure? You can also request radio service's to include installation and re-programming via this same portal.



To ensure that your request is met in an efficient manner, please conduct all radio requests through the radio web portal.

Please use the link below to learn more.

<http://radio.saratogacountyny.gov/>

Tier III Class a Huge Success



The Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services in conjunction with the New York State Department of Homeland Security hosted an Emergency Management Certification and Tier III Training from at the South Glens Falls FD in early March. More than 50 people to include local public officials, first responders leadership and other partners with a role in local disaster response and emergency management took part in the training.

Send Us Your Department Patch

The Office of Emergency Services works closely with fire, police and ems agencies from across Saratoga County protecting life and property.

As a way to show off our partnership, we are in the process of creating a first responder wall where we can proudly display your departments colors. To date, we have had 15 departments submit their patch to us.

If you would you like to provide OES with a patch for the wall, please send it to: The Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services, 25 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020.

Rail Safety and Hazmat Response Training

Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services has worked with CP Rail to bring additional rail safety and hazmat response training to Saratoga County, July 14-16, 2016. Personnel interested should register immediately as space is limited.



REGISTER: To register, please visit:

<http://transcaer.com/events> and select the day that fits into your schedule. Days available are: July 14, 15 or 16.

FREE One-day Training Includes:

- Hands-on workshops and classroom instruction
- One-on-one training opportunities with emergency response professionals
- DVDs containing presentations, plus additional videos and reference materials
- Complimentary lunch
- Certificates upon successful completion

Hazmat Safety & Emergency Response: Learn about the physical and chemical properties of toxic gases (chlorine & hydrogen chloride); corrosive liquids (hydrochloric acid & caustic soda) and flammable gases (vinyl chloride). Transportation methods, health effects of acute exposure, proper selection of personal protective equipment, first aid, and medical treatment measures are reviewed.

Required Safety Gear for all Field Exercises: Hard hat, gloves, safety glasses, long pants, and sturdy leather work boots with a defined heel. Please advise the instructor of any pre-existing medical condition that may preclude participation in a field exercise. Stay hydrated and stay alert!

FREE WEBINARS are also available to you. Please visit the <http://transcaer.com/events> website to learn more about the 90-minute webinars that provide awareness level training for first responders, hazmat specialists and emergency managers.

We hope you take advantage of these training opportunities.

Local Emergency Planning Committee

The Saratoga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met on Wednesday, January 27th in the Office of Emergency Services. The committee will meet at 2pm on the dates listed below. Meetings are open to those interested in attending.

The LEPC set its 2016 schedule as:

- Wednesday, March 30
- Wednesday, June 29
- Wednesday, September 28
- Wednesday, December 28

Radio System Templating Project

As part of our Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Mobile Upgrade project, the Office of Emergency Services feels it is vitally important that all end users on the county 800 MHz radio system to have the most up-to-date interoperable communication resources available to them.

During the month of March, the Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services will begin the process of updating all Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement portable and mobile subscriber units with an updated template.

The re-programming process will include adding required National Interoperable 800 MHz repeater channels (8CALL and 8TAC's) to give you the flexibility to operate in a mutual-aid environment where High-site repeaters may be available or in a situation where on-site Tactical repeaters may be deployed. The process will also include the programming of new TAC Channels, 30-90 into each radio to provide end users additional channels for use.

In the coming weeks Pittsfield Communications will contact you to schedule a site visit to your agency. Please work with them to ensure that ALL portable and mobile subscriber units are re-programmed during the initial site visit. The subscriber units that are not re-programmed during the initial site visit can be re-programmed during a second re-programming day here in the Office of Emergency Services, on a date and time to be determined.

Subscriber units not re-programmed during one of these scheduled time frames will be REMOVED from the Saratoga County Radio System entirely. It will become the sole responsibility of those departments and agencies who failed to meet the time frame for programming to schedule a site visit with Pittsfield Communications and assume the cost of this re-programming.

Upon completion of the radio re-programming project the Office of Emergency Services will host several 800 MHz radio refresher trainings held across the County. This refresher training will focus on topics to include the new templates, interoperable communications, radio etiquette, emergency button activation, failsoft procedures and radio system operating procedures. We will be sending out correspondence announcing the dates and locations in the coming weeks.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office at 885-2232 or send an e-mail to emergencyservices@saratogacountyny.gov



Incident Command System I-300 Training

The Office of Emergency Services is hosting an Incident Command System I-300 Class being held April 12-14. The Announcement is being held two-weeks so those within the County can get its people registered first. If you have any personnel that you would like to take the course, please have them enroll by clicking the link here: <https://nyslearn.ny.gov/index.html>

This course is designed to enable senior staff personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Command System (ICS). This course focuses on management of expanding incidents and was developed under the leadership of the NWCG and complies with the NIMS/HSPD-5 requirements for Incident Command System training.

The target audience for this course is individuals who may assume a supervisory/management role in expanding (Type 3) incidents. Persons likely to assume these ICS supervisory positions would include Emergency Management, Fire Service, Law Enforcement, EMS, Healthcare, Education, Military, & Volunteer organizations active in disaster.

General Rules for 800 MHz Radio Use

• **Federal Communication Rules** - Every agency, department and person who operates a radio on the Saratoga County radio system shall observe all Federal Communication (FCC) Rules and Regulations and all regulations set by the Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services.



• **National Incident Management System** - The Incident Command System (ICS) compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) when using the Saratoga County Public Safety Radio Network is authorized. Establishing Command and using "Command" will be the accepted designation for the incident commander.

• **Plain Language** - All radio communications to include multi agency, multi discipline incidents will be in plain language. Avoid using radio codes, acronyms, and abbreviations as they may cause confusion between agencies. Ensure that all verbal requests for assistance or backup specify the reason for the request.

• **Unit Identification** - Announce using assigned radio designator; "E10-1 or Car 62" when communicating over the radio. AVOID using first names or last names, unless titles are being utilized. (i.e., 4120 to County or Clifton Park 19-5-1 to EMS).

• **Called Party First** - When calling another unit, announce your unit call sign followed by who you're calling. This method reduces the need to repeat messages (example: "OES 3 to FIRE CAR 2 on TAC 8.")