STAFFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT NO. 1

EST. 1934

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Before the
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION DIVISION OF STATEWIDE EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

March 12, 2015

In the Matter of:

Notice of Proposed Regulatory Change related to	)	
DESPP regulations regarding the subsidization of	)	**DSET Docket No. 13-01**
Regional Emergency Communications Centers, multi-town	)	
Public Safety Answering Points and eligible municipalities	)	

To whom it may concern,

The Stafford Fire Dept. No.1 Inc. has been a longstanding member and supporter of the Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service Inc. Tolland County has continually operated an extremely efficient public safety answering point that is cost effective to the Towns it serves. The existing funding formula which is in jeopardy of being changed would reduce subsidies of the largest and most efficient Regional PSAP's such as Tolland County Mutual Aid to help try and address the issues with smaller and less efficient PSAP's.

The large regional PSAP's at Litchfield County, Tolland County and Quinebaug Valley serve approximately 30% of Connecticut Towns. For over twenty years they have done what Connecticut asked by creating large regional 9-1-1 centers that minimize cost to the municipalities they serve. The MORE Commission has targeted regional PSAP's as a way to save municipalities money in these trying economic times. This proposal if enacted would mean a loss of revenue to Tolland County in the amount of $76,648 which would have to be made up by member Towns. The formula should not reduce the subsidy to these organizations but rather establish a long term plan to further stabilize them. Efforts should be made to look at ways for further consolidation which will help to eliminate inefficiencies and reduce the costs of operation by reducing the number of PSAP's in the State by using these existing organizations as models of success and efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Lucia
Fire Chief
Stafford Fire Dept. No.1 Inc.