



# **HJR 155 Part II:**

## **Automatic Aid Between Emergency Services**

Presented to the HRPDC by

Richard Flannery

Emergency Management Administrator

December 16, 2009

- General Assembly enacted HJR 155 in 2008
  - Requested the HRPDC review emergency response operations across jurisdictional lines to determine if legislation is needed to improve cooperation among first responders
- Part II of a two-year study, final report
  - First report (Dec. 2008) concluded that no legislative action was required to facilitated automatic or mutual aid among first responders in HR

- Automatic aid occurs when a 911 dispatcher in the responding jurisdiction can deploy resources from another jurisdiction
- Mutual aid occurs when the 911 dispatcher contacts another jurisdiction and the contacted jurisdiction deploys the requested resources

## Types of Aid

- Mutual aid agreements have remained in effect and updated as needed
- Hampton Roads Fire Chief's Association has continued regular meetings
  - Examples of regional initiatives include
    - processes for coordinated communications
    - resources typing
    - Incident Management Teams with FY 09 UASI funds
- No legislation is required

- Predominantly resides under fire
- Mutual aid is required under the Code of Virginia
  - Agreements have remained in effect and been updated as needed
- Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Council and Peninsula Emergency Medical Services Council continue to support regional collaboration
- No legislative action is required

- Mutual aid continues to be preferred over automatic aid
- Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement remains in effect
- Chiefs of Police have continued their monthly meetings
  - Continued to look at alternative mutual aid options including possible legislation that would reduce the burden of mutual aid agreements while still offering the protections
- No legislative action is required

## **Law Enforcement**

- Continue to facilitate automatic or mutual aid agreements between first responders
- Association of Public Safety Communication Officials continues to advance 911 dispatch systems
  - Project 36 has become a national best practice
- No legislative action is required

## 911 Dispatch

- Provides a sampling, but is not an all-inclusive review of first responder operations within special jurisdictions
  - Norfolk International Airport
  - Old Dominion University
  - College of William and Mary
  - Christopher Newport University
- Found strong working relationships and a willingness to share resources
- MOUs support the sharing of resources
- No legislative action is necessary

## **Additional Interdependencies**

- No legislative action is required to facilitate automatic or mutual aid among first responders in HR
  - First responder agencies have strong working relationships
  - Resources are shared when requested
- Supports the conclusion of the previous report
  
- Approve the report
- Authorize the Executive Director to submit the report to the General Assembly

## **Conclusion & Recommendation** <sup>9</sup>



# Questions?

