



Board of Commissioners
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**Statement for the Veterans Affairs &
Emergency Preparedness Committee**

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Beaver County Emergency Services

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Chairman Barrar, Chairman Sainato, and Members of the Committee, I am Wesley Hill, Director of Beaver County Emergency Services. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this statement and discuss 9-1-1 emergency services and calls that involve emergency towing.

Beaver County receives all 9-1-1 emergency calls for service in the county and depending where the call is located we also dispatch emergency service providers with exception to those areas that are covered by Pennsylvania State Police. I would like to further discuss how these calls are handled. First, a call is received in the 9-1-1 center regarding a motor vehicle accident with injuries in an area that is covered by the Pennsylvania State Police. All information regarding injuries and hazards due to the accident are obtained by the 9-1-1 center and if needed fire and emergency services are dispatched.

We would then transfer the call to the Pennsylvania State Police where they would dispatch their units to the accident. From that point of the call Beaver 9-1-1 would have no knowledge or communications with the Trooper responding to the incident. We would however complete the call for service with the fire and emergency medical provider that was dispatched by our agency. The accident scene and request for emergency request for emergency tow would be handled by the Pennsylvania State Police and their Police Communications Officer (PCO).

On the other hand, Beaver 9-1-1 works with and dispatches service to approximately 40 municipal police departments. Annually as well as periodically we review each municipality's tow list which consists of the tow companies that they would use when needed. These companies are listed in our Computer-Aided-Dispatch (CAD) system and used as necessary. Using the same motor vehicle accident mentioned above, Beaver 9-1-1 takes the initial call and dispatches the resources needed and when requested by the law enforcement of jurisdiction Beaver 9-1-1 will call and dispatch the tow of request. From January 1, 2014 through April 30, 2014, Beaver 9-1-1 has dealt with hundreds of such calls. That does not take into account requests for tows regarding vehicles broken down on the roads and highways. To date, all requests for emergency service response have been handled and cause no problems or issues that would affect our operations.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify here today and I will try to answer any questions you might have.