



**NYSAC**

NEW YORK STATE  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

**2016 NYSAC Fall Seminar  
Niagara County, New York**

**Standing Committee on Public Safety**

**Hon. Ron Spike (Yates County) – Chair**

**Hon. Matthew Veitch (Saratoga County) – Vice Chair**

**2016 NYSAC Fall Seminar  
Standing Committee on Public Safety  
Resolution #1**

**Resolution Calling on Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the State  
Legislature to Plan for Next Generation 911 In New York State and Create A  
New York State 911 Department that Supports County Public Safety  
Answering Points and Enhances Local Emergency Dispatch Services**

**WHEREAS**, counties provide 911 services in New York State by operating Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) that serve all residents in times of emergency by dispatching emergency medical, fire, and police assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, counties continue to incur substantial costs to upgrade and maintain communications systems, as well as keep up to date with technological changes; and

**WHEREAS**, these changes are a fundamental shift toward an IP based 911 system that is commonly referred to as Next Generation (NG) 911; and

**WHEREAS**, NG 911 requires greater planning and investment on the part of local governments in order to keep pace with rapidly evolving consumer technologies; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of states across the country have aggressively begun preparing for NG 911 and in numerous instances deploying significant infrastructure and policies to build the foundation for a NG 911 system; and

**WHEREAS**, New York State has done comparatively little to prepare for NG 911 and is facing significant risk in becoming a straggler in the deployment of NG 911 technologies; and

**WHEREAS**, a lag in planning and investment in NG 911 places New York's citizens at risk as they rely on a legacy 911 system that is rapidly becoming obsolete; and

**WHEREAS**, the NYS Public Service Commission (PSC) conducted a telecommunications study on 911 that required the insight of public safety and 911 experts to relay relevant public safety information to the PSC as they make 911 related telecommunications decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, the NYS Public Service Commission (PSC) intends to work collaboratively with the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), the 911 Advisory Board and the Public Safety Broadband Working Group to further advance the implementation of NG 911 in New York State, while maintaining their oversight of 911 system affordability and reliability as it pertains to providers of 911 services; and

**WHEREAS**, a New York State effort to provide coordinated leadership in the area of 911 would be most appropriately empowered to both support the mission of the PSAPs

in the state as well as transition the current state's 911 legacy system to a NG 911 system that will better serve its citizens for years to come; and

**WHEREAS**, leadership from New York State is crucial to ensure success and to prevent future tragedies related to the 911 network; and

**WHEREAS**, counties urge New York State to adopt the Automated Secure Alarm Protocol (ASAP) which automates all alarms coming from alarm companies and allows for an electronic link between the Central States Alarm Association, the NLETS system and the PSAP's via the NYS e-justice system.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) calls upon Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the State Legislature and the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to create a New York State 9-1-1 Department that best serves the public interest and supports PSAPs in New York State while continuing to allow the City of New York and the 57 counties outside of NYC to receive emergency 9-1-1 calls and dispatch emergency services in a manner that is most appropriately determined by those municipalities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC calls upon the State Legislature and the Governor to enable a State 9-1-1 Department that would:

- Provide funding;
- Issue RFPs and award contracts as necessary to support 9-1-1;
- Establish standards for 9-1-1;
- Apply for and distribute Federal Grant Funds;
- Coordinate and provide training for 9-1-1 directors, supervisors and call takers;
- Provide public education;
- Provide necessary networks to support 9-1-1 both in a legacy and NG 9-1-1 environment;
- Provide a Statewide ESInet to support interoperability within and outside of New York State;
- Create, maintain and distribute GIS databases;
- Create and maintain NG 9-1-1 and other appropriate databases to support 9-1-1 efforts;
- Provide and propose appropriate regulation / legislation / tariffs to support 9-1-1;
- Represent New York State in efforts to support and advance 9-1-1 at a national level including participating in events sponsored by NASNA, NENA, APCO and the FCC;
- Provide consultative services to PSAPs in NYS in regards to industry trends, products, techniques, and standards;
- Help manage Civil Service exams;
- Manage the TERT program;
- Provide legal expertise in 9-1-1 related matters;

- Serve as the liaison to 9-1-1 service providers (TELCOs, Wireless Carriers, TCCs, VoIP providers, CPE manufacturers, etc.);
- Provide coordination with the Public Service Commission and work closely with them on tariffs, legislation and other business as it pertains to the 911 field;
- Provide for connectivity via the e-justice system to allow for the Automated Secure Alarm Protocol (ASAP); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC supports the extension of 911 surcharges to any device capable of connecting to 911, including prepaid devices as essential to preserving current resources for 911 services; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the 62 counties of New York State, encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State Legislature, the Commissioner of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services and all others deemed necessary and proper.

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Resolution #2**

**Resolution in Support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the Federal Government to Continue Efforts to Receive Federal Approval to Provide High-Need Individuals with Medicaid Coverage 30 Days Prior to Release to Avoid Relapse and Recidivism**

**WHEREAS**, a critical gap exists between medical care for individuals in jail or prison, and health coverage for individuals leaving incarceration; and

**WHEREAS**, while in jail or prison, medical care is provided through the correctional facility, and upon release many inmates are left without coverage at all; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been reported that one in 70 formerly incarcerated individuals are hospitalized within a week of release from prison or jail, and one in 12 are hospitalized within 90 days; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous federal and state studies have shown that formerly incarcerated individuals are more susceptible to drug overdose and hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015 the Governor's Council on Community Re-Entry and Reintegration recommended expanding health care coverage for formerly incarcerated individuals. The authority for the initiative was included in the 2016-17 State Budget that builds on federal and New York State efforts to reduce rates of incarceration and recidivism, combat the opioid epidemic and other substance disorders, and improve community based mental health care; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) has engaged with the federal government and is in the process of finalizing a waiver request with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the waiver is to better connect individual to the outside healthcare system and prevent barriers that would prevent individuals access to health coverage both in the short and long terms.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) support the efforts put forth by Governor Cuomo to continue efforts to receive federal approval to provide high-need individuals with Medicaid coverage 30 days prior to release to avoid relapse and recidivism; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the 62 counties of New York State, encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State Legislature, the New York State Department of Health and all others deemed necessary and proper.

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Resolution #3**

**Resolution Calling on Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature  
to Pass Legislation that would Promote the Use of Video Conferencing for  
Court Appearances for Inmates Held at a County Jail**

**WHEREAS**, under current law, video conferencing of inmates for arraignment or other court appearances is permitted in several counties, but is actually not in practice because the law requires the inmate to agree to such an appearance; and

**WHEREAS**, many counties have state of the art video conferencing systems which are not used for inmate court appearances, simply because inmates routinely chose to be transported to court rather than make an appearance by video conference; and

**WHEREAS**, expanded use of video conferencing for court appearances would save much time and county taxpayer expense by avoiding transporting inmates to court for minor or routine matters, make courtrooms safer, and avoid problems which might happen when inmates are transported by auto or van to a courtroom many miles away from the jail.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the review and recommendation of the public safety committee that the New York State Association of Counties supports legislation to promote the full and expanded use of video conferencing for court appearances for inmates held at a county jail; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the applicable judge in the presiding court, and not the inmate, should make the determination as to whether video conferencing is appropriate for the particular court appearance to be made; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the sixty-two counties of New York encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of Counties shall forward copies of this resolutions to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

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Resolution #4**

**Resolution in Support of Efforts to Improve Probation and Alternatives to Incarceration in New York State in Order to Protect the Public and Reduce Reliance on Prison and Jails**

**WHEREAS**, county Probation departments are an integral part of the criminal justice system and operate within the legal framework of the Criminal Procedure Law, the Penal Law, and the Family Court Act; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the mission of Probation to protect the community through intervention in the lives of those under supervision by facilitating compliance with court orders and serving as a catalyst for positive change; and

**WHEREAS**, state funding for Probation was drastically reduced between 1990 and 2016 from a 46.5% state share in 1990 to less than 10% in 2016, putting a huge strain on counties and cost to county property taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS**, at the same time there have been increases in the number of mandated programs and services County Probation Departments are required to provide; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Council of Probation Administrators, representing NYS Probation Directors, Administrators and Commissioners has diligently worked with NYSAC and State leaders to bring more awareness to the important work that Probation does to protect the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) supports proposals put forward by the Governor to immediately enact statutory and regulatory changes that improve Probation and Alternatives to Incarceration in the following ways:

- Eliminate the mandate that pre-sentence investigations must be conducted when a sentence of up to one year in jail has been negotiated.
- In response to Violation of Probation Petitions:
  - Require counties to develop swift, certain, graduated responses
  - Require the courts to dispose of the VOP's within 90 days
- Enable Probation to administratively modify Conditions of Probation in the provision of graduated responses.
- Establish a dedicated funding stream for juvenile services provided directly to Probation through DCJS/OPCA.

- Eliminate the requirement for dual supervision of Ignition Interlock parolees by delegating direct supervision to NYS Parole only of defendants sentenced to DOCCS.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the 62 counties of New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Deputy Secretary for Public Safety Rachel Small, the New York State Legislature and all others deemed necessary and proper.