2022 NYSAC Fall Seminar
NYSAC Board of Directors
Resolution #6
Resolution Calling on New York State to Sufficiently Invest in 9-1-1 Funding

to Ensure Proper Maintenance with Existing Systems and Prepare for Next Generation 9-1-1 Technologies

WHEREAS, the funding mechanism that New York State counties use to help operate, maintain and upgrade 9-1-1 system capability and performance is out of date and does not correspond well with recent technology and marketplace changes; and

WHEREAS, the FCC has released their latest report for 2020, and its shows that New York collected \$241,643,008 and diverted over \$100,765,134 (41.7 percent) to other non-9-1-1 related purposes and the general fund; and

WHEREAS, currently, it states in the Tax Law, Article 186-f, Section 5, forty-one and seven-tenths of the revenues collected and received are swept into the state general fund and not provided for public safety services; and

WHEREAS, this diversion shifts the bulk of Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG 9-1-1) readiness financing to counties and other local governments' PSAPs in New York State; and

WHEREAS, the diversion of E9-1-1 funds results in a system that does not direct sufficient revenue to allow counties to properly maintain existing systems while also preparing to implement NG 9-1-1 technology required under federal law; and

WHEREAS, under current law, for the last four budget years, \$10 million was authorized and targeted directly to PSAPs and up to \$65 million was set aside for the provision of grants and reimbursements to counties administered by the State Interoperable Communications Grants (SICG) program, administered by the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES); and

WHEREAS, due to the designation of E9-1-1 fees for non 9-1-1 related expenses, New York State PSAPs are not eligible for any of the \$115 million in federal grant funding for E9-1-1 and NG 9-1-1 enhancements and IP-based advanced networks; and

WHEREAS, the goal of upgraded NG 9-1-1 systems is to make sure that all devices capable of connecting to the system can do so using voice, text, video images and other data formats to better inform the emergency responders of the situation they will be entering; and

WHEREAS, NG 9-1-1 upgraded systems will be able to better pinpoint an emergency call that may be in a remote area of the state or in a multi-storied building in one of our communities; and

WHEREAS, recognizing a more precise location of those needing emergency services will improve outcomes and save lives, but this cannot be accomplished without consistent and timely funding from the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) calls on Governor Kathy Hochul and the DHSES, Office of Interoperable Communications to release all funds authorized within the State Budget to ensure eligibility for federal FCC E9-1-1 and NG9-1-1 resources, and to ensure monies collected for the Public Safety Surcharge are allocated within that budget year and remain in the Public Safety Surcharge fund and not moved into the general fund for nonpublic safety related purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NYSAC further calls on DHSES to implement the draft 9-1-1 plan, and ensure the creation of a statewide NG 9-1-1 system connecting all of the county and municipal 9-1-1 systems into one statewide system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NYSAC further calls on the State to fund NG 9-1-1 implementation with state resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, releasing these funding obligations on a regular schedule will provide certainty and build continuity as we upgrade and maintain existing systems and prepare for and implement NG 9-1-1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution be sent to the 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 28 the Governor of the State of New York, the New York State Legislature, DHSES 29 Commissioner Jackie Bray, and all others deemed necessary and proper.