February 13, 2015

Honorable Barry J. Jozwiak
402 Irvis Office Building
P.O. Box 202005
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2005

Via First Class Mail

In Re: 911 Costs

Dear Representative Jozwiak,

As Chairman of and on behalf of the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our concerns with the rapidly increasing costs, borne by individual municipalities in Berks County, for the statewide 911 emergency system. From 2010 to present, Maidencreek Township's 911 communications service contribution rate has increased an average of 24% annually. We are in receipt of the County of Berks Department of Emergency Services 2015 Statement of Costs invoice, which reflects a further rise in Maidencreek Township's contribution to $88,457.71.

After review of The Public Safety Emergency Telephone Act ("The Act"), as amended, we support any/all further amendments which would provide for contribution rates to more appropriately reflect current telecommunications usage. While advances in technology have caused telecommunications usage to trend away from landlines and toward wireless and internet based services, the highest contribution rate remains the landline subscriber rate. We believe a small increase in the contribution rate for cellular device, voice over internet protocol (VoIP) and point of sale wireless surcharges would significantly reduce the requisite municipal contributions and equitably allocate the burden of covering 911 costs amongst all telecommunications users.

We are aware of the Wireless Emergency Services Fund termination date of June 30, 2015 and fully support modernization of the The Act to adjust for inflation and account for both current and future advances in technology.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and please do not hesitate to contact us with any comments, concerns, or feedback you may have.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP

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Joseph E. Rudderow, III, Chairman