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April 8, 2020

Honorable Governor Laura Kelly

Governor Kelly,

Across the nation in times of intense personal crisis and community-wide disasters, the first access point for those seeking all classes of emergency services is 9-1-1. The 1200 Kansas Emergency Telecommunicators staffing local and county emergency communications centers that receive these calls have emerged as the first and single point of contact for persons seeking immediate relief during an emergency.

Kansas 911 is celebrating the second full week of April (April 12-18, 2020) as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. This week, sponsored by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International, National Emergency Number Association (NENA), and the Kansas 911 Coordinating Council and celebrated annually, honors the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render lifesaving assistance to the citizens of Kansas. We are enlisting your support in the form of a Proclamation to honor these men and women in our area for the work that they do every day to protect the citizens in the State of Kansas (Fire, EMS, Law and Health Care Professionals).

The importance of recognizing and celebrating the hard work of these dedicated professionals at every level is immeasurable. We are confident you will stand behind the commitment and devotion these men and women provide to ensure the safety and security of the State of Kansas citizens. I have enclosed a proposed message for your signature.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to your reply.

Respectfully,

Angela Murphy

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Angela Murphy, President  
KS Chapter of APCO

Dick Heitschmidt

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Dick Heitschmidt, Chairman  
KS 911 Coordinating Council

Don Gruver

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Don Gruver, President  
KS Chapter of NENA

**Proclamation**  
**National Public-Safety Telecommunicators Week**  
**April 12-18, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, 9-1-1 is nationally recognized as the number to call in an emergency to receive immediate help from police, fire, paramedics and healthcare professionals; and

**WHEREAS**, 9-1-1 was designated by Congress as the national emergency call number under the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-81); and

**WHEREAS**, the ENHANCE 911 Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-494) established enhanced 9-1-1 as a high national priority as part of our Nation's homeland security and public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, people of all ages use 9-1-1, and it is critical to educate the public of all ages on the proper use of 9-1-1; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the single vital link for our police officers, firefighters, paramedics and healthcare professionals by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and ensuring their safety; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of 9-1-1 calls are made every year by children properly trained on the use of 9-1-1, resulting in lives saved which underscores the critical importance of training children early in life about 9-1-1; and

**WHEREAS**, each Kansas Public-Safety Telecommunicator has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year;

**NOW, therefore, I, Laura Kelly**, Governor of Kansas, do hereby proclaim the week of April 12 through 18, 2020 as National 9-1-1 Telecommunicator Week where we recognize these First Responders. I call upon all government officials, parents, teachers, school administrators, caregivers, businesses leaders, non-profit organizations, and the people of the United States to observe this week with training, events, and activities to educate the public on 9-1-1 and its services.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of April, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[First/Last Name], Governor

Attest:

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[First/Last Name], Clerk