



**Shawnee County  
Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Brian C. Hill  
Law Enforcement Center**

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February 11, 2021

To: Kansas Association of Public Safety Officials, Kansas Chapter

FROM: Sheriff Brian Hill, Shawnee County Sheriff's Office

RE: Support for 9-1-1 First Responder Act

On behalf of the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office's, I want to express our complete support the proposed legislation which would serve to reclassify emergency telecommunicators as first responders within the 9-1-1 First Responders Act, K.S.A. 48-949. The passage of this legislation is necessary to acknowledge the essential public safety role that emergency telecommunicators perform on a daily basis.

Passage of this bill is an important step towards fully recognizing the commitment and dedication that these critical infrastructure workers bring to their profession. It also acknowledges their sacrifice, perseverance and contribution to the vital role that they play in public safety across this state. These emergency workers endure a lot of the same challenges and stressors as law enforcement officers, and have earned this classification and additional benefits, such as mental health support services.

I appreciate the opportunity to express our support to this endeavor. We would also join with the Kansas Association of Public Safety Officials and Kansas 911 Coordinating Council, in full support of this proposed legislation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian C. Hill".

Brian C. Hill  
Sheriff, Shawnee County, Kansas