

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Media Contact:

Natchitoches Parish Communications District

Willis Carter, Director

318-238-8301

wcarter@natchitoches911.org

Express Your Appreciation to Natchitoches Parish Emergency 9-1-1 Call Takers and Dispatchers...

Each year, the second full week of April is dedicated to the men and women, who serve as public safety telecommunicators. In recognition and to honor these mostly unknown and sometimes underappreciated public servants, in the early 1990s, the national Association of Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO) asked Congress, through a formal proclamation, introduced by Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), to create a "National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week." That original proclamation followed the process of Congressional procedure, and in 1994 became a permanent day of recognition each consecutive year.

The first 9-1-1 call in the United States made some 46 years ago at 2:00 p.m. in Haleyville, Alabama marked the beginning of a new era in public safety. The emergency call takers and dispatchers, who serve Natchitoches Parish by operating our two 9-1-1 public safety answering points, are among the thousands of dedicated individuals, who staff the over 6000 public safety emergency communications centers across our nation. These communications professionals toil night and day, sometimes with little recognition, but work for the satisfaction gained by serving their community. This week is our opportunity to say "thank you" and publicly recognize the "good job" they do.

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About the Natchitoches Parish Communications District (Natchitoches 9-1-1)

Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 is committed to providing fast, efficient and effective access to emergency public safety services for all the citizens and visitors to Natchitoches Parish. Since 1988 the "District" has served in a pivotal role ensuring the safety of residents and visitors to Natchitoches Parish by providing the support services, which connects the citizens experiencing emergencies with emergency services via the use of one, easy to remember and simple to use 3-digit number, 9-1-1. The Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 District provides the equipment and systems necessary to receive 9-1-1 calls from the nearly 40,000 residents of the parish, as well as the ever-increasing numbers of visitors to the area. We are proud to serve as "Natchitoches Parish's Gateway to Public Safety Services".

Find out more at www.natchitoches911.org.