

Kiner, David

From: modishoo@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2010 12:00 AM
To: Kiner, David
Subject: Raised Bill 312 Public Hearing Statement

As Emergency Management Director and Deputy Fire Marshal for the Town of Berlin I have some concerns regarding this Raised Bill 312 Proposal. First although I agree that regionalization of public safety emergency telecommunication centers is a viable option for some communities, the across the board requirement for all communities is not a feasible option. Having a local dispatch center allows for having dispatchers on duty that have a complete understanding of the town's operating procedures, resources and contacts. Having dispatchers on duty with this information used on a daily basis provides for a more accurate and timely response to not only routine matters but more importantly emergency situations.

Secondly, the town's dispatch center also handles a large amount of routine calls and is also the first point of contact for walk-ins to the police department. The dispatchers also provide communication and emergency calls for several town departments including Public Works, Public Grounds and Animal Control. If regionalization is forced onto the town the management of these issues will become a problem which must either be handled by the regional dispatch or require the hiring of personnel by the Town to handle these issues. Where is the cost savings now?

In conclusion, the use of Regionalized dispatch has its advantages for some communities; however, the requirement for all communities to fall under the regionalized dispatch requirement can actually lead to reduced efficiency in the handling of both emergency and routine calls and may even lead to additional monetary obligations to some communities.

Respectively Submitted,

Matthew C Odishoo