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Annual Collection of Information

Related to the Collection and Use of 911 and E911 Fees by States and Other Jurisdictions

Pursuant to OMB authorization 3060-1122, the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau seeks the following specific information in order to fulfill the Commission's obligations under Section 6(f)(2) of the NET 911 Act:

A. Filing Information

1. Name of State or Jurisdiction

State or Jurisdiction	
State of Minnesota	

2. Name, Title and Organization of Individual Filing Report

Name	Title	Organization
Dana Wahlberg	9-1-1 Program Manager	Department of Public Safety/Emergency Communication Networks



B. Overview of State or Jurisdiction 911 System

1. Please provide the total number of active Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in your state or jurisdiction that receive funding derived from the collection of 911/E911 fees during the annual period ending December 31, 2014:

PSAP Type ¹	Total
Primary	99
Secondary	5
Total	104

2. Please provide the total number of active telecommunicators² in your state or jurisdiction that were funded through the collection of 911 and E911 fees during the annual period ending December 31, 2014:

Number of Active Telecommunicators	Total
Full-Time	1310
Part-time	250

3. For the annual period ending December 31, 2014, please provide an estimate of the total cost to provide 911/E911 service in your state or jurisdiction.

Amount
(\$)

\$27,638,145.54

This includes NG911 specific expenditures, Legacy 911 expenditures, and the allocation

¹ A Primary PSAP is one to which 911 calls are routed directly from the 911 Control office. A secondary PSAP is one to which 911 calls are transferred from a Primary PSAP. *See* National Emergency Number Association, Master Glossary of 9-1-1 Terminology (*Master Glossary*), July 29, 2014, at 118, 126, available at https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.nena.org/resource/resmgr/Standards/NENA-ADM-000.18-2014 2014072.pdf.

² A telecommunicator, also known as a call taker or a dispatcher, is a person employed by a PSAP who is qualified to answer incoming emergency telephone calls and/or who provides for the appropriate emergency response either directly or through communication with the appropriate PSAP. *See Master Glossary* at 137.



provided to the PSAPs towards their eligible use expenses.
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3a. If an amount cannot be provided, please explain why.

4. Please provide the total number of 911 calls your state or jurisdiction received during the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

Type of Service	Total 911 Calls
Wireline	471,808
Wireless	2,559,242
VoIP	102,842
Other	96,400
Total	3,230,292

- C. Description of Authority Enabling Establishment of 911/E911 Funding Mechanisms
 - 1. Has your State, or any political subdivision, Indian tribe, village or regional corporation therein as defined by Section 6(f)(1) of the NET 911 Act, established a funding mechanism designated for or imposed for the purposes of 911 or E911 support or implementation (please include a citation to the legal authority for such mechanism)? *Check one.*

•	Yes	X
•	No	

1a. If yes, provide a citation to the legal authority for such a mechanism.

Minnesota has established a funding mechanism to support the implementation and operations of 911 and E911 services throughout the state under Minn. Stat. §403.11, Subdivision 1. A



monthly 911 fee was imposed on all wire-line telecommunication carriers for each telephone line, or the trunked equivalent, capable of accessing the 911 network in 1987. In 1994, the fee was extended to wireless telecommunication carriers and in 2005, the statute was amended to clarify its application to packet-based telecommunication service providers. In 2013, the statute was revised to impose a prepaid wireless 911 fee on every retail transaction in the State of Minnesota.

The Minnesota Statewide 911 Program is operated by the Department of Public Safety. The program collects the monthly 911 fee from wireless and wire-line switched or packet-based providers; provides technical assistance to the cities, counties and tribal entities in the implementation, operation, and maintenance of local 911 systems; establishes 911 system standards; pays the recurring network costs and disburses funds collected under Minn. Stat. §403.11, Subc. 1 in accordance with Minn. Stat. Chapter 403.

1b. If yes, during the annual period January 1 - December 31, 2014, did your state or jurisdiction amend, enlarge, or in any way alter the funding mechanism.

	Prepaid Wireless retail point of sale went into effect January 1, 2014. Minn. Stat. §403.16.
Į	

2.	Which of the foll	owing best describes the type of authority arra	angement for the collection of
	911/E911 fees?	Check one.	

	The State collects the fees	X
•	A Local Authority collects the fees	
•	A hybrid approach where two or more governing bodies	
	(e.g., state and local authority) collect the fees	П



3. Describe how the funds collected are made available to localities.

911 emergency telecommunication service account funds are made available to localities as follows:

- Minn. Stat. §403.025, Subd. 7 requires the Statewide 911 Program to contract for and provide the 911 telecommunication network elements (911 from wire-line switching offices, 911 routing and selective routing services, automatic location identification database) for counties and other governmental agencies operating Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) within Minnesota and Minn. Stat. §403.11, Subd. 3 provides for the payment of those costs.
- Minn. Stat. §403.025, Subd. 7 also requires the Statewide 911 Program to contract for 911 routing and network elements with wireless carriers and for the payment of those costs under Minn. Stat. §403.11, Subd.3.
- Minn. Stat. §403.113, Subd. 2 requires a portion of the available funds to be distributed directly to state, local and tribal PSAP's. Minn. Stat. §403.113, Subd. 3 defines the purposes funds distributed to state, local and tribal PSAP's may be used.
- Minn. Stat. §403.11, 403.113 and 403.30 provide for the use of funds by the Statewide 911 Program from the 911 emergency telecommunication service account to provide resources for localities, as follows:
 - Costs of ongoing maintenance and related improvements for trunking and central office switching equipment for 911 emergency telecommunication services;
 - Costs to operate the Division of Emergency Communication Networks;
 - Grants to provide assistance to counties for the improvement of local emergency telecommunication services;
 - o To implement, operate, maintain, enhance and expand enhanced 911 services; and
 - To pay debt services upon revenue bonds authorized under Minn. Stat. §403.32 and §403.275 to provide the backbone for the statewide public safety radio communication system. Upon this debt recently being recompensed, effective October 1, 2013, the 911 fee decreased from eighty cents to 78 cents per access line.



D. <u>Description of State or Jurisdictional Authority That Determines How 911/E911 Fees are Spent</u>

Jurisdiction	Authority to Approve Expenditure of Funds (Check one)	
	Yes	No
State	Χ□	
Local (e.g., county, city, municipality)		Χ□
1b. Please briefly describe any limitations on the a to fees collected by the entity, limited to wireline or		risdiction (e.g., limited
All 911 fee revenues are deposited and maintained in the 911 emergency telecommunications service account. This account is a special revenue account where funds are carried over from year to year as provided in Minn. Stat. §403.11, Subd. 1(b). The Statewide 911 Program is administered by the Commissioner of Public Safety, who has authority to expend funds from the 911 emergency telecommunications service account as provided in Minn. Stat. §403. Minn. Stat. § 403.06, Subd. 1(a) requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to prepare a biennial budget for maintaining the 911 system, report details of expenditures for maintaining the 911 system, 911 fees collected and balance of any funds remaining in the 911 emergency telecommunications service account.		



2a. If you checked YES, provide a legal citation to the funding mechanism of any such criteria.

With respect to funds allocated directly to local units of government, under Minn. Stat. §403.113, Subd. 2, funds must be expended in accordance with Minn. Stat. §403.113, Subd.3 and the local units of government are required to audit the use of those funds annually and to submit a copy of the audit to the Statewide 911 Program.

2b. If you checked NO,	describe how your sta	ate or jurisdiction de	ecides how collecte	d funds can
be used.				

E. Description of Uses of Collected 911/E911 Fees

1. Provide a statement identifying with specificity all activities, programs, and organizations for whose benefit your state, or political subdivision thereof, has obligated or expended funds collected for 911 or E911 purposes and how these activities, programs, and organizations support 911 and E911 services or enhancements of such services.

Funds may be used by PSAPs to maintain and enhance public safety for public safety responders and citizens of Minnesota as follows:

- Lease, purchase, lease-purchase, or maintain enhanced 911 telephone equipment
- Lease, purchase, lease-purchase, or m aintain enhanced 911 recording equipment
- Lease, purchase, lease-purchase, or maintain enhanced 911 computer hardware
- Computer hardware/software for database proviaioning, addressing, mapping and any other software necessary for automatic phone and location identification
- Trunk lines
- Master Street Address Guide
- Dispatcher operational skills and equipment proficienty
- Equipment in the PSAP for community alert systems
- Equpment necessary in the PSAP used to notify and communicate with emergency services requested by the 911



caller	

2. Please identify the allowed uses of the collected funds. Check all that apply.				
2. Trease identify the anowed uses of the concered rands. Check at that apply.				
	Type of Cost	Yes	No	
	Lease, purchase, maintenance of customer premises equipment (CPE) (hardware and software)	Χ□		
Operating Costs	Lease, purchase, maintenance of computer aided dispatch (CAD) equipment (hardware and software)	Χ□		
	Lease, purchase, maintenance of building/facility		Χ□	
Personnel Costs	Telecommunicators' Salaries		Χ	
resonner costs	Training of Telecommunicators	Χ□		
Administrative Costs	Program Administration	Χ□		
	Travel Expenses	Χ□		
	Reimbursement to other law enforcement entities providing dispatch		Χ□	
Dispatch Costs	Lease, purchase, maintenance of Radio Dispatch Networks	X Limited to Radio Console Workstations in the PSAP		
Grant Programs		X If Yes, see 2a.		
•	eriod ending December 31, 2014, describe th	•	r state paid	

for through the use of collected 911/E911 fees and the purpose of the grant.

According to Minn. Stat. §403.113, a portion of the fee collected must be used to fund implementation, operation, maintenance, enhancement, and expansion of enhaced 911 service, including acquisition of necessary equipment



and the costs of the commissioner to administer the program. After payment of costs of the commissioner to administer the program, money collected shall be distributed as follows:

- (1) one-half of the amount equally to all qualified counties, and after October 1, 1997, to all qualified counties, existing ten public safety answering points operated by the Minnesota State Patrol, and each governmental entity operating the individual public safety answering points serving the Metropolitan Airports Commission, the Red Lake Indian Reservation, and the University of Minnesota Police Department; and
- (2) the remaining one-half to qualified counties and cities with existing 911 systems based on each county's or city's percentage of the total population of qualified counties and cities. The population of a qualified city with an existing system must be deducted from its county's population when calculating the county's share under this clause if the city seeks direct distribution of its share.
- (b) A county's share under subdivision 1 must be shared pro rata between the county and existing city systems in the county. A county or city or other governmental entity as described in paragraph (a), clause (1), shall deposit money received under this subdivision in an interest-bearing fund or account separate from the governmental entity's general fund and may use money in the fund or account only for the purposes specified in subdivision 3.
- (c) A county or city or other governmental entity as described in paragraph (a), clause (1), is not qualified to share in the distribution of money for enhanced 911 service if it has not implemented enhanced 911 service before December 31, 1998.
- (d) For the purposes of this subdivision, "existing city system" means a city 911 system that provides at least basic 911 service and that was implemented on or before April 1, 1993.

In CY2014 a total of

\$13,664,000 in funding was allocated to MN PSAPs using the funding mechanism described above.

F. Description of 911/E911 Fees Collected

1. Please describe the amount of the fees or charges imposed for the implementation and support of 911 and E911 services. Please distinguish between state and local fees for each service type.

Service Type	Fee/Charge Imposed	Jurisdiction Receiving Remittance (e.g., state, county, local authority, or a combination)
Wireline	\$.78	State (DPS/ECN)
Wireless	\$.78	State (DSP/ECN)
Prepaid Wireless	\$.78	State (Department of Revenue)
Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP)	\$.78	State (DPS/ECN)
Other		



2. For the annual period ending December 31, 2014, please report the total amount collected pursuant to the assessed fees or charges described in Question F 1.

Service Type	Total Amount Collected (\$)
Wireline	\$18,106,997.78
Wireless	\$36,660,353.54
Prepaid Wireless	\$4,264,674.10
Voice Over Internet Protocol	\$2,414,082.73
Other	
Total	\$61,446,108.15

	2a. If an amount cannot be provided, please explain why.
3.	Please identify any other sources of 911/E911 funding.
	None

Question	Yes	No
4. For the annual period ending December 31, 2014, were any 911/E911 fees that were collected by your state or jurisdiction combined with any federal, state or local funds, grants, special collections, or general budget appropriations that were designated to support 911/E911/NG911 services? Check one.		Χ□



4a. If Yes, please describe the federal, state or local funds and amounts that were combined with 911/E911 fees.

5. Please provide an estimate of the proportional contribution from each funding source towards the total cost to support 911 in your state or jurisdiction.	Percent
State 911 Fees	100%
Local 911 Fees	0%
General Fund - State	0%
General Fund - County	PSAPs may receive general funds from the county in which they operate in addition to the monthly 9-1-1 fee distribution allocated by the legislature. The \$13.6M is budgeted by legislature and distributed according to Minn Statute §403 as explained in 2a. above. This distribution varies by county according to a designated formula.
Federal Grants	0%
State Grants	0%



G. <u>Description of Diversion or Transfer of 911/E911 Fees for Other Uses</u>

Question		Yes	No
1. In the annual period ending December 31, 2014, were funds collected for 911 or E911 purposes in your state or jurisdiction made available or used solely for purposes designated by the funding mechanism identified in Question 5? Check one.		Χ□	
1a. If No, please identify what amount of funds collected for 911 or E911 purposes were made available or used for any purposes other than the ones designated by the funding mechanism or used for purposes otherwise unrelated to 911 or E911 implementation or support, including any funds transferred, loaned, or otherwise used for the state's general fund. Along with identifying the amount, please include a statement identifying the non-related purposes for which the collected 911 or E911 funds were made available or used.			
Amount of Funds (\$) Identify the non-related purpose(s) for which the 911/E911 funds were used. (Add lines as necessary)			



Yes

 \mathbf{X}

No

H. Oversight and Auditing of Collection and Use of 911/E911 Fees

Question

mechanisms or procedures to determine whether collected funds have been made available or used for the purposes

1. Has your state established any oversight or auditing

designated by the funding mechanism or otherwise used to implement or support 911? Check one.				
1a. If yes, provide a description of the mechanisms or procedures and any enforcement or other corrective actions undertaken in connection with such auditing authority, for the annual period ending December 31, 2014. (Enter "None" if no actions were taken.)				
Funds are remitted to our office, with the exception of pre paid wireless. We are in the process of working to develop an interagency agreement with the MN Department of Revenue in an effort for them to share some information related to the point of sale collections for pre paid. Currently we have no visibility into this process and thus have no edification on whether or not fees are being collected and remitted appropriately or not.				
Question	Yes	No		
Question 2. Does your state have the authority to audit service providers to ensure that the amount of 911/E911 fees collected form subscribers matches the service provider's number of subscribers? Check one.	Yes X	No		
2. Does your state have the authority to audit service providers to ensure that the amount of 911/E911 fees collected form subscribers matches the service provider's	X	e actions		
 2. Does your state have the authority to audit service providers to ensure that the amount of 911/E911 fees collected form subscribers matches the service provider's number of subscribers? Check one. 2a. If yes, provide a description of any auditing or enforcement undertaken in connection with such auditing authority, for the auditing authority, for the auditing authority. 	X	e actions		
 2. Does your state have the authority to audit service providers to ensure that the amount of 911/E911 fees collected form subscribers matches the service provider's number of subscribers? Check one. 2a. If yes, provide a description of any auditing or enforcement undertaken in connection with such auditing authority, for the a 31, 2014. (Enter "None" if no actions were taken.) 	X	e actions		



I. <u>Description of Next Generation 911 Services and Expenditures</u>

Question	Yes	No	
1. Does your state or jurisdiction classify expenditures on Next Generation 911 as within the scope of permissible expenditures of funds for 911 or E911 purposes? Check one.	Χ□		
1a. If yes, in the space below, please cite any specific legal authority:			
Same statute language as referenced in number C. 1a. E911 and NG911 treated in parallel for purposes of allowable expenditures until the statute is formally revised.			

	Question	Yes	No
-	period ending December 31, 2014, has your state expended funds on Next Generation 911 eck one.	Χ□	
2a. If yes, in the space below, please enter the dollar amount that has been expended.			
Amount (\$)	\$6,910,767.28 specifically for Next Generation 911, for 0 \$13,664,000 was allocated to MN PSAPs which are active own equipment to meet NG 911 standards. \$7,063,378.2 legacy elements during the transition.	ely replacing and u	pgrading their



3. For the annual period ending December 31, 2014, please describe the type and number of NG911 Emergency Service IP Network(s) (ESInets) that operated within your state.						
Type of ESInet	Yes	No	If Yes, Enter Total PSAPs Operating on	If Yes, does the type of ESInet interconnect with other state, regional or local ESInets?		
			the ESInet	Yes	No	
a. A single, state-wide ESInet	X				Χ□	
b. Local (e.g., county) ESInet		X.				
c. Regional ESInets		X	[If more than one Regional ESInet is in operation, in the space below, provide the total PSAPs operating on each ESInet]			
Name of Regional ESInet:						
Name of Regional ESInet:						



4. Please provide a description of any NG911 projects completed or underway during the annual period ending December 31, 2014.

All 104 PSAPs connected to the ESInet for all call types (wire line, wireless, and VoIP).

RFP posted for response for ESInet, IP Selective Routing, and a solution for Text to 911.

GIS Project Manager position was created and filled to begin the Statewide GIS Centerline project for 911 in preparation for ECRF/LVF.

	Question	Total PSAPs Accepting Texts
5.	During the annual period ending December 31, 2014, how many PSAPs within your state implemented text-to-911 and are accepting texts?	None
	Question	Estimated Number of PSAPs that will Become Text Capable
6.	In the next annual period ending December 31, 2015, how many PSAPs do you anticipate will become text capable?	Anticipate a minimum of 7, one per region.



J. <u>Description of Cybersecurity Expenditures</u>

Question		k the riate box	If Yes, Amount Expended (\$)
1. During the annual period ending December 31, 2014, did your state expend funds on cybersecurity programs for PSAPs?	Yes	No X	

	Question	Total PSAPs
many PSA security p	e annual period ending December 31, 2014, how APs in your state either implemented a cyber rogram or participated in a regional or state-run urity program?	None

Question	Yes	No	Unknown
3. Does your state or jurisdiction adhere to the National Institute of Standards and Technology Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity (February 2014) for networks supporting one or more PSAPs in your state or jurisdiction?			Χ□



K. Measuring Effective Utilization of 911/E911 Fees

1. Please provide an assessment of the effects achieved from the expenditure of state 911/E911 or NG911 funds, including any criteria your state or jurisdiction uses to measure the effectiveness of the use of 911/E911 fees and charges. If your state conducts annual or other periodic assessments, please provide an electronic copy (e.g., Word, PDF) of the latest such report upon submission of this questionnaire to the FCC or provide links to online versions of such reports in the space below.

DPS/ECN is currently not authorized to implement any measurement of success. There is a statewide concern this type of information could be misinterpreted and misused. We do, however, conduct an annual audit/review of how the 911 fees allocated to local authorities is spent. There is an established criteria of eligible purchases for which the funds allocated by the state may be spent.

Enhanced 911 Fund

Calendar Year 2014 E911 Fund Audit

Every year all Minnesota cities, counties, or other governmental agencies with 911 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), are required by Minnesota Statutes Section 403.113, Subdivision 4, to send an audit of their E911 funds to the Department of Public Safety. The Calendar Year Audit forms are distributed to each entity in January for the prior year. They need to be returned to DPS no later than March 31, 2015.

PSAP managers and city/county financial authorities may have questions as to which of their PSAP's expenditures can be applied to their E911 fund distributions. The application of the expenditure to fit within the intent of Minn. Stat. 403.113 is sometimes cloudy. The original argument for local funding was generally to fund PSAP premise equipment hardware and software needed to transition a basic 911 service PSAP to the enhanced 911 environment along with the training necessary to operate the upgrades. The statute provides that the enhanced 911 fee is collected for the following purposes:

"...to fund implementation, operation, maintenance, enhancement, and expansion of enhanced 911 service, including acquisition of necessary equipment..."

The statute goes on to indicate the term "enhanced 911 equipment" which includes the following:



- telephone equipment;
- recording equipment;
- computer hardware;
- computer software for database provisioning, addressing, mapping, and any other software necessary for automatic location identification or local location identification;
- trunked lines;
- selective routing equipment;
- the master street address guide;
- dispatcher public safety answer point equipment proficiency and operational skills;
- <u>Removed</u> pay for long-distance charges incurred due to transferring 911 calls to other jurisdictions.
 - Funding for long distance transfers has been removed due to the
 advances in technology. The implementation of the ESInet and
 the ability to transfer calls between Minnesota PSAPs with ANI
 and ALI using the three digit star codes has eliminated the need
 to continue this reimbursement option.
- equipment necessary within the public safety answering point for community alert systems and communications with emergency services requested by the 911 caller.

In addition, the statute further states that enhanced 911 funds may <u>not</u> be used for the following expenditures:

Dispatch center structural costs;

- Mobile radio equipment for public safety vehicles; or
- Signs, posts and markers related to addressing.

The limitation on these three expenditures was deemed to be a necessary clarification of the authorizations provided for in clause (a) of Minn. Stat. 403.113, subdivision 3.

Consider the following in the decision making process when applying expenditures to the E911 funding:



Is the proposed use of those funds directly related to the "actual implementation, operation, maintenance, enhancement, and expansion of enhanced 911 services?"

If the answer is yes, the funds may be used for that purpose. Note: E911 funds can be applied to the necessary upgrades for migration to the Next Generation 911 platform.

Is the proposed use of those funds for "equipment" or for training related to the equipment upgrade?

If the answer is "yes", proceed to the next question.

Is the equipment 'telecommunications equipment' which is used to provide enhanced 911 or Next Gen 911 services?

If the answer is "yes", the funds may be used for that purpose.

If the equipment is not telecommunications equipment directly related to providing enhanced 911 services, is the equipment related to interpreting data provided with the call or to document the call?

If the answer is "yes", the funds may be used for that purpose.

If the equipment is communication equipment, is it "necessarily located within the PSAP and used to communicate with the emergency services requested by the 911 callers"?

If the answer is "yes", the funds may be used for that purpose. Air cards or cell phones, and their associated invoices, used by 'response' personnel for the purposes of communicating with dispatch personnel are <u>not</u> allowable expenditures.

If the equipment is a community alerting system, is it "necessarily located within the PSAP"?

If the answer is "yes", the funds may be used for that purpose.



The following is a brief list of expenditures approved for use of E911 funding:

- Components related to answering equipment
- Equipment necessary for map display within the PSAP
- Backup power (UPS) prorated for amount applicable to the PSAP (if PSAP is located in a law enforcement center, or sheriff's office, only the amount required for the PSAP to operate during a power outage can be applied to the E911 funding)
- Expenditures relative to a back-up PSAP can only be applied to E911 funding after all approved applicable expenditures for the primary PSAP have been covered.
- Training and conference expenses for registration and travel; but not to include salaries and benefits of the employee attending.
- Equipment in the PSAPs for monitoring traffic cams or alarm cams where a dispatchable event may potentially need to be created based on an incident occurring in the area being monitored.
- Ancillary software for continued maintenance of community alert/notification systems. IPAWS upgrades to Early Alert and Warning or mass notification systems is an allowable expense.

The following items are **NOT** allowable expenditures for E911 funding:

- Mobile radio equipment, including handheld radios, used by public safety response agencies and personnel.
- Air cards or cell phones (along with their associated invoices) used by response personnel, or dispatch supervisors/managers, to communicate with dispatch personnel.
- Expenditures for a back-up PSAP without having met the obligations of the primary PSAP.
- Equipment "outside" of the four walls of the PSAP. <u>NOTE:</u> This is not to be interpreted to mean that every item within the four walls of the PSAP qualifies as an approved expenditure for E911 Funding.