



SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – April 9, 2012

SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES DEDICATED 911 OPERATORS

Each year, the second full week of April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as public safety Telecommunicators. The official name of the week when originally introduced in Congress in 1991 was "National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week." In 2012 that week is April 8 - 14.

Every day, our citizens, and public safety responders depend on the skill, expertise and commitment of our 911 Dispatchers. Our Telecommunicators help numerous lives by answering emergency calls, dispatching emergency professionals, and by providing moral support and compassion to citizens in distress.

The scope of a Telecommunicator's job includes a wide range of radio, computer, medical, telephone, mapping and teletype duties; counseling the injured; and providing security in times of distress. These highly trained, compassionate individuals play a vital role in protecting citizens and communities alike.

Associated with emergency response is self-control under pressure and critical decision-making within seconds. Many people don't stop to think about the faceless individual who answers the 911 call until they experience an actual emergency themselves.

This week we would like to recognize our dedicated staff of dispatchers who routinely go above and beyond the call of duty, and thank them for their service. Please pass along your appreciation to them for all they do:

Valerie Ramey, Supervisor.....	33 years	Vanessa Goad, Senior Dispatcher.....	24 years
Wendy Baumgartner.....	24 years	Tracy Brookshier.....	19 years
Everette Frost.....	18 years	Arber Hickerson.....	17 years
Elizabeth Frank.....	12 years	Sam Huntley Jr.....	9 years
Monica Farris.....	8 years	Amy Keister.....	7 years
David Kirby.....	6 years	Brandi Blackwell.....	3 years
Alysia Bradshaw.....	3 years	Lindsey Edwards.....	1 year
Charly Jones.....	1 year	Sharon Braden (part time).....	17 years

The below link is a letter written by Loveland Colorado's Police Chief in 1994. I think it says it all. I hope you take the time to read it. http://www.911dispatch.com/info/ntw/wagoner_tribute.html

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