



Florida 9-1-1 Coordinators Association, Inc.  
3825 Tigers Bay Rd, Suite 161  
Daytona Beach, FL 32124

March 23, 2021

The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor of Florida  
400 S Monroe St  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Governor DeSantis,

I would like to thank you for your call to provide \$1,000.00 stimulus to Florida's First Responders. It further demonstrates your commitment to public safety in Florida. This is a great recognition of the First Responders' dedication and hard work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On behalf of the FL 9-1-1 Coordinators Association, Inc. membership, I ask that you include the 9-1-1 Public Safety Telecommunicators (PSTs) in the stimulus package. These dedicated public safety professionals are often the public's first contact with public safety during emergency incidents. The 9-1-1 centers across Florida saw increased calls for medical services, COVID information, and related incidents during the pandemic. The PSTs were challenged with adapting to protocol changes to ensure the safety of the public and their fellow First Responders as the pandemic progressed. They continued to perform their duties with increased staffing shortages due to employees contracting COVID-19. Throughout the pandemic, the PSTs continued to perform their mission critical and lifesaving duties throughout difficult circumstances.

Currently, there are two bills in the legislature, House Bill 1171 and Senate Bill 1224, which would properly classify Florida's Public Safety Telecommunicators as First Responders under State Statute. We respectfully request your support of this legislation.

As one of the main entry points into the public safety system we ask that you support the efforts of our essential 9-1-1 Public Safety Telecommunicators by seeing they receive proper recognition as First Responders.

Respectfully,

A. Keith Godwin  
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