

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATORS RATH, LORIGO, MILLS & HARDWICK**

Re: Supporting the Use of E911 Surcharge Funds for their Intended Purposes

WHEREAS, currently there are three state authorized charges placed on residents that generate hundreds of millions of dollars in State revenue and are intended to provide funding to local municipalities to upgrade E-911 and next-gen 911 services; and

WHEREAS, these surcharges are intended to be dedicated funds distributed to all New York counties to pay for technology upgrades that allow for the implementation of E-911 enhanced calling services and eventually next generation services like pin-point location services and text-to-speech technologies for 911 call centers; and

WHEREAS, NYS imposes a \$1.20 a month for cell phone usage making these surcharges among the highest in the nation; and

WHEREAS, of the \$190 million collected from the wireless surcharge alone less than \$10 million was shared with local governments, with only 6% of the total revenue collected being shared historically or even being spent on E-911 related services; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of the funding has been reallocated to the New York State general fund to finance spending not related to E-911; and

WHEREAS, the money collected by this fund is unfairly and inappropriately distributed throughout the Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP's) within the State; and

WHEREAS, it is a finding of this body that the improper distribution is hampering public safety efforts here in Erie County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature supports the proper distribution of all NYS revenue collected from telephone surcharges to help defray the significant and recurring costs of upgrading and maintaining the E-911 telephone services and PSAP's in Erie County; and, be it further

RESOLVED; that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo's officer, the Western New York Delegation to the New York State Senate and Assembly, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: Positive for Erie County taxpayers