

ROCKLAND 911 DISPATCH ASSOCIATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HEADLINE: ROCKLAND 911 DISPATCH ASSOCIATION JOINS NYSVARA

STORY: The Rockland 911 Dispatchers Association has recently partnered with the New York State Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Association as a sustaining member.

R911DA was formed in October of 2003 and is comprised of 911 Dispatchers from all of Rockland County, in the lower Hudson Valley. Our members represent the towns of Clarkstown, Haverstraw, Orangetown, Ramapo, Stony Point as well as the Villages of Piermont, Spring Valley and Suffern.

Our original intent was to form a fraternal organization where members could bond and discuss issues facing the Public Safety Dispatcher. While maintaining that core objective we have made it a goal of the organization to advance the "25 Year Retirement" legislation for Public Safety Dispatchers.

The bill was passed by the NY State Senate in 2007, however it died in committee. Fortunately NY State Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski has resubmitted the bill (A08198) and Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffee has agreed to co-sponsor.

We understand that getting this legislation passed in tough economic times will be an uphill battle, but the bill is written to give each municipality the option to provide this additional benefit to its employees. There is also an anticipated additional contribution by the employee to offset the burden on the employer.

We would like to offer to speak to other dispatcher groups or meet with individual communications centers and attempt to organize a concerted effort to push this beneficial legislation forward.

If anyone has any questions you are also welcome to visit our regular monthly meetings which are posted on our website: WWW.R911DA.ORG

We are proud to be sustaining members of NYSVARA and thank you for the support in our efforts.