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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## SHERIFF CONTINUES TO MAKE STRIDES IN SHARED SERVICES

West Long Branch: Sheriff Shaun Golden continues to lead the way in shared services, by marking another milestone, this time with West Long Branch. On April 5, the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office began handling all of the borough's dispatch operations, which include 9-1-1 emergency calls for service, police, fire and EMS. The move provides the borough with high tech radio communications and cutting edge services. It will cut costs and help increase safety.

"The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office 9-1-1 Communications Center is the largest shared service in Monmouth County," said Sheriff Shaun Golden. "It is an efficient, cost savings measure that will enhance public safety while addressing emergencies and life threatening situations in a more rapid response."

The change means that when a call comes into the 9-1-1 Communications Center from West Long Branch, an alert will be sent directly to the first responders in the borough. In the past, when a 9-1-1 call came into the center, West Long Branch police and EMS would be contacted first, then, the borough would send out its own alert. This consolidation eliminates one step in the emergency process to address an incident sooner. In an emergency, seconds can make a difference.

"The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office 9-1-1 Communications Center is the most responsive approach and efficient solution for the borough and its tax payers, as we continually look at ways to save money through shared services," said Mayor Janet Tucci. "The county already answers our 9-1-1 calls and provides fire dispatch services for West Long Branch.

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With the addition of police and EMS, this move will ultimately provide the same level if not better emergency services for the borough."

"This is the ultimate shared service and I commend the sheriff's office and West Long Branch for working together," said Freeholder Director Thomas A. Arnone, liaison to the county office of Shared Services. "Monmouth County has the broader knowledge and resources to offer shared services and it benefits towns to take advantage of this opportunity."

The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office 9-1-1 Communications Center is staffed with 101 public safety telecommunicators and provides 9-1-1 services to 50 municipalities and dispatches for 111 agencies which include police, fire and EMS.

"This change will provide a higher level of services through our trained, dedicated team of public safety telecommunicators," said Sheriff Golden. "They serve the County 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are emergency medical dispatchers, emergency communication officers and National Crime Information Computer (NCIC) terminal operators."

In 2015, the center received a total of 607,949 calls, on average, 1,660 calls are received per day.

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