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NEWS RELEASE

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SHERIFF'S OFFICE, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EMS TASK FORCE ASSISTS IN EVACUATION OF OCEAN COUNTY NURSING HOME

Ocean County: Sheriff Shaun Golden commends the members of the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Management's EMS Task Force for its efforts in assisting with the evacuation of residents from the Crystal Lake Healthcare and Rehabilitation in Bayville, March 19, after a hazardous materials incident.

The mutual aid response consisted of two Monmouth County Medical Ambulance Buses (MAB) which are operated by Shark River Hills First Aid, Keyport First Aid and Atlantic Highlands First Aid. The MABs are custom built buses, used to treat people during large scale emergencies. Each one is capable of carrying 24 stretcher patients at one time. Additionally, a Mass Care Response Truck operated by Atlantic Highlands First Aid, along with ambulances from Avon First Aid, Tinton Falls EMS South, Roosevelt First Aid, Howell First Aid, Wall Community First Aid and Holmdel First Aid responded to the scene. Two deputy EMS coordinators were also sent to help with the coordination of resources. Monmouth County assisted in moving approximately 133 residents from the facility to 11 other similar facilities in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

"Monmouth County is glad to have these specialized resources and be able to assist our neighboring counties," said Sheriff Shaun Golden.

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“Having these assets, which have all been purchased using Homeland Security Grant funds, available when situations like this arise, further demonstrates the high level of preparedness that exists here in our County.”

Deputy EMS Coordinators and volunteers who responded, worked through the night and into the morning, dedicating more than 12 hours to this effort to help ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of the residents.

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