



Keith Havard
Sheriff

GEORGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Duane Bowlin
Chief Deputy

March 16, 2023

The Honorable Mike Ezell
443 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: George County 911 Dispatch Communications Center- Equipment Replacement

Dear Congressman Ezell:

Congratulations again on your election... you've made all County Sheriffs proud!

As you know, the George County Board of Supervisors is requesting help from Homeland Security funding to replace outdated and failing equipment/software in County's 911 Dispatch Communication Center.

"Antiquated... inadequate... outdated..." were just three of the terms used to describe George County's current 911 and Emergency Communication System in a study recently commissioned.

Recent storms/hurricanes and steady residential population increases have made it clear; a complete communication system revamp is needed

These improvements will directly address the following issues: 1) major interruptions of basic 911 Service to the public, 2) antiquated Dispatch Center equipment, computer systems, back-up power, and 3) dead spot coverage of the County's outdated VHF radio system.

For example, Hurricane Zeta in 2020 knocked out service and the backups to the 911 Dispatch Center for days. Despite numerous County repairs, Hurricane Ida in 2021 caused another failure. Repairs proved difficult as most of the PSAP System parts are 11 to 15 years old and are no longer available.

The County has completed a full replacement study and estimates approximately \$1,100,000.00 in cost for the new PSAP phone system, GIS integration/dispatcher, new digital radio equipment and corresponding computer software for the County's 911 Dispatch Communications Center.



Keith Havard
Sheriff

**GEORGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE**



Duane Bowlin
Chief Deputy

Supervisors have already approved a County Resolution obligating any Homeland Security funds go out for purchasing and installation bids within four (4) months. For more details, please see George County's FY24 Homeland Security Request.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter and look forward to working with your office on this vital project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith Havard".

Sheriff Keith Havard

Cc: Ken Flanagan, George County Community Development

George County Board of Supervisors

LARRY McDONALD, DISTRICT THREE
LARRY HAVARD, DISTRICT FOUR
ROBERT P. SHEPHERD, ATTORNEY
Cammie Brannan Byrd, Clerk of Board



FRANKIE MASSEY, DISTRICT ONE
KELLY WRIGHT, DISTRICT TWO
HENRY COCHRAN, DISTRICT FIVE
ALISON MITCHELL, PURCHASE CLERK

329 Ratliff Street
Lucedale, Mississippi 39452
601-947-7506

March 16, 2023

The Honorable Mike Ezell
443 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: George County 911 Dispatch Communications Center- Equipment Replacement

Dear Congressman Ezell:

Let me say again, congratulations on your election... you've made all County officials proud!

As you know, the George County Board of Supervisors is requesting help from Homeland Security funding to replace outdated and failing equipment/software in County's 911 Dispatch Communication Center.

"Antiquated... inadequate... outdated..." were just three of the terms used to describe George County's current 911 and Emergency Communication System in a study recently commissioned.

Recent storms/hurricanes and steady residential population increases have made it clear; a complete communication system revamp is needed.

These improvements will directly address the following issues: 1) major interruptions of basic 911 Service to the public, 2) antiquated Dispatch Center equipment, computer systems, back-up power, and 3) dead spot coverage of the County's outdated VHF radio system.

For example, Hurricane Zeta in 2020 knocked out service and the backups to the 911 Dispatch Center for days. Despite numerous County repairs, Hurricane Ida in 2021 caused another failure. Repairs proved difficult as most of the PSAP System parts are 11 to 15 years old and are no longer available.

The County has completed a full replacement study and estimates approximately \$1,100,000.00 in cost for the new PSAP phone system, GIS integration/dispatcher, new digital radio equipment and corresponding computer software for the County's 911 Dispatch Communications Center.

Supervisors have already approved a County Resolution obligating any Homeland Security funds go out for purchasing and installation bids within four (4) months. For more details, please see George County's FY24 Homeland Security Request.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter and look forward to working with your office on this vital project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frankie Massey".

Supervisor Frankie Massey, 2022 Board President & 911 Committee

Cc: Ken Flanagan, George County Community Development



George County Emergency Management

Office of EMA, Fire & E911 Coordinator
355 Cox St. Suite J
Lucedale, Mississippi 39452
601-947-7557
Brian Henderson - Director

March 16, 2023

The Honorable Mike Ezell
443 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: George County 911 Dispatch Communications Center- Equipment Replacement

Dear Congressman Ezell:

Congratulations on your election and the start of your first term in Congress!

As you know, the George County Board of Supervisors are requesting help from Homeland Security funding to replace outdated/obsolete and failing equipment/software in the County's 911 Dispatch Communication Center.

“Antiquated... inadequate... outdated...” were just three of the terms used to describe George County's current 911 and Emergency Communication System in a study recently commissioned.

Recent storms/hurricanes and steady residential population increases have made it clear; a complete communication system revamp is needed to effectively dispatch emergency services.

These improvements will directly address the following issues: 1) major interruptions of basic 911 service to the public, 2) antiquated/obsolete Dispatch Center equipment, computer systems, back-up power, and 3) dead spot coverage of the County's outdated VHF radio system.

For example, Hurricane Zeta in 2020 knocked out service and the backups to the 911 Dispatch Center for days. Despite numerous County repairs, Hurricane Ida in 2021 caused another failure. Repairs proved difficult as most of the PSAP System parts are 11 to 15 years old and are no longer available.

The County has completed a full replacement study and estimates approximately \$1,100,000.00 in cost for the new PSAP phone system, GIS integration/dispatcher, new digital radio equipment and corresponding computer software for the County's 911 Dispatch Communications Center.

Supervisors have already approved a County Resolution obligating any Homeland Security funds go out for purchasing and installation bids within four (4) months. For more details, please see George County's FY24 Homeland Security Request.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter and look forward to working with your office on this vital project.

Sincerely,

Brian Henderson, EMA Director & Fire/911 Coordinator

Cc: Ken Flanagan, George County Community Development



City of Lucedale

“Established 1901”

March 16, 2023

The Honorable Mike Ezell
443 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: George County 911 Dispatch Communications Center- Equipment Replacement

Dear Congressman Ezell:

First and foremost, congratulations on your election to Congress!

The City of Lucedale and the Mayor's Office is in full support of George County's request for Homeland Security EOC funding to replace outdated and failing equipment/software in the EMA's 911 Dispatch Communication Center.

Recent storms/hurricanes and steady residential population increases have made it clear; a complete communication system revamp is needed.

For example, Hurricane Zeta in 2020 knocked out service and the backups to the 911 Dispatch Center for days. Despite numerous County repairs, Hurricane Ida in 2021 caused another failure. Repairs proved difficult as most of the PSAP System parts are 11 to 15 years old.

The County has completed a full replacement study and estimates approximately \$1,100,000.00 in cost for the new PSAP phone system, GIS integration/dispatcher, new digital radio equipment and corresponding computer software for the County's 911 Dispatch Communications Center.

For more details, please see George County's FY24 Homeland Security CPF Request.

City is pleased to be supporting and partnering with the County on another community project. I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mayor Doug Lee

Cc: Ken Flanagan, George County Community Development