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**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
VERMONT STATE POLICE
45 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1300**

August 18, 2020

Dear Agency Heads:

The purpose of this correspondence is to update all departments and agencies receiving dispatching services through the Vermont State Police Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), regarding the fee structure report that all agencies previously received. Earlier this year you received an email inviting interested parties to be part of a small working group to convey concerns and/or ideas about the proposed rollout of the fee structure report. Some expressed concern regarding how the fees were assessed; however, due to many factors outside our control, such as budgetary constraints and staffing levels, the group was unable to meet.

Commissioner Schirling continues his work on the fee structure report to ensure statewide dispatching services are fair and equitable. It is the commissioner's hope that the fee structure report be presented to your local governments so they have time to prepare their fiscal year 2022 budget.

Commissioner Schirling is well aware of the budgetary constraints each municipal government is under during these times and the Vermont State Police has not been immune to these same limitations. In order for municipal budgets to be prepared effectively, it is our goal to provide as much notice to your municipalities as possible. It has been decided, to effectively and fairly roll out the proposed fees, they will be rolled out in a tiered fashion. Each agency will be billed 25% for FY22, 50% FY23, 75% FY24 and 100% in FY25.

We now ask those that have concerns or ideas to look at the attached fee structure report which spells out the call volume for each agency, and report any anomalies that you feel are present for your specific agency. Any ideas on how to better set your agency's fee structure should be forwarded to me at Lance.Burnham@vermont.gov. Your concerns will be reviewed and addressed to the best of our ability. We stand committed to providing a professional working relationship with your agencies, while keeping safety our highest priority.

Sincerely,

Captain Lance Burnham
Emergency Communications Commander
Vermont State Police

"Your Safety Is Our Business"