**PECO - CAD Interface**

In order to expedite PECO’s response to electrical emergencies in Montgomery County, the Department of Public Safety has partnered with the utility provider to create an interface capable of electronically communicating requests between CAD and PECO’s dispatch system.

The interface went live at 10 AM on Wednesday, November 28th, and was already utilized successfully 7 times in the first 24 hours.

As a reminder to all response agencies, PECO uses three categories to prioritize dispatches:

- **Priority 1 (Life Threatening):** A serious electric related condition, situation, or incident for which time is a critical factor, requiring urgent response to minimize or avoid personal injury or significant property damage. Examples include a pole hit with electric wires down that are preventing a rescue (person trapped in vehicle), wires that are preventing a rescue in a structure fire, or a person shocked or a person at imminent risk of being shocked by electric facilities. PECO’s response goal is 30 minutes.

- **Priority 2 (Priority/Standing By):** A potentially dangerous electric related condition, situation, or incident with no immediate risk of personal injury, but that is adversely affecting firefighting or other emergency operations. Examples include a structure fire where the fire department is unable to shut off the electric and/or gas (not preventing a rescue) and fire suppression is being hampered, electric wires down (not preventing a rescue), or PECO Energy electric distribution equipment on fire. PECO’s response goal is 1 hour.

- **Priority 3 (Routine/Other):** An electric related condition, situation, or incident with no apparent risk of personal injury or property damage. Examples include wires arcing or sagging, a pole leaning, or a manhole cover missing. PECO’s response goal is 4 hours.

Montgomery County Emergency Telecommunicators will follow up all Priority 1 interface entries with a telephone call to PECO’s dispatch center to confirm receipt.

**Bucks and Montgomery County Fire and EMS Radio Interoperability**

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety is in the process of programming Bucks County fire and EMS channels into APX 6000 and APX 6500 radios for Montgomery County fire companies whose districts are situated along the county border. Similar programming efforts will include EMS agencies, as well as fire agencies with APX 4000 or APX 4500 radios, in the near future.

Any agencies in need of Bucks County fire or EMS channels who have not yet been contacted may call (610) 631-6511 for more information.
Emergency Reporting – CAD Interface

The Department of Public Safety has completed the integration of a CAD data link to Emergency Reporting for fire service use. The CAD link automatically reports all apparatus times, incident details, and event comments for all agencies assigned to an event. Additional features include latitude and longitude coordinates, census tract, postal address, cross streets, and caller information, all of which are automatically filled in the incident report.

Agencies interested in participating will need an “Agency Code” from Emergency Reporting to begin uploading data. Please provide agency codes to Dennis Orangers, doranger@montcopa.org, and you will be notified when data will begin to be transmitted.

PECO Supports Fire Advisory Committee

On Friday, November 16th, Suzanne Ryan, Regional External Affairs Manager at PECO, presented the members of the Montgomery County Fire Academy Advisory Committee with a check for $2,000.00. The presentation occurred immediately prior to the Advisory Committee’s semi-annual meeting at the Fire Academy. This generous donation will be used to maintain the Montgomery County Firefighter Memorial.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Award

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety was recently presented with the Seven Seals Award by the Department of Defense, in recognition of support provided for employees who serve in the National Guard or Reserve. Deputy Director for Emergency Communications Michael Vest, a military veteran himself, accepted the award on behalf of the Department at a ceremony in Carlisle, Pennsylvania on November 14th.

Mike was previously featured in the April 2018 Public Safety News after he was nominated by one of his employees and subsequently received the Department of Defense Service Member Patriot Award, which reflects the efforts made to support citizen warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.
Montgomery County Hazardous Materials Response Team Training

The Montgomery County Hazardous Materials Response Team is continually training on how to respond to the diverse hazards they face in today’s world. Members recently participated in two specialized training sessions based on current risks: Drugs IQ and Propane IQ. Opioid overdoses have become extremely common in Montgomery County over the past several years (736 confirmed cases in 2017) and every one of these incidents threatens the health and safety of emergency responders. In addition, propane emergencies continue to be one of the most common incidents that HazMat Teams face and are responsible for many responder injuries.

In Drugs IQ, members learned about opioid incident response, including risk assessment and scene size up, hazard mitigation, proper personal protective equipment selection, and the use of detection and identification instrumentation. In Propane IQ, Hazardous Materials Technicians from Montgomery, Bucks, and Delaware Counties learned offensive tactics for the mitigation of propane leaks. Members first reviewed propane’s physical and chemical properties and then built on that knowledge by practicing the conduction of a container assessment, vapor dispersion, leak control options, and flaring operations. Propane IQ was supported by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force Emergency Response Work Group with funds provided by the Homeland Security Grant Program.

The ability to offensively mitigate a leaking propane container is a new capability that the Montgomery County Hazardous Materials Response Team offers. Agencies with questions can contact Chief John Waters (jwaters@montcopa.org) for more information.

Motorola Radio Discount Still Available

Motorola Solutions Inc. (MSI) is still offering Montgomery County emergency response agencies a discount promotion for new radios that are purchased before the end of calendar year 2018.

The company is offering the same 32 percent discount from current list price as per the Montgomery County contract, plus trade-in credits for old XTS radios.

While the first tier of trade in credit expired on October 21st, Motorola will still give a $350 trade-in credit for any old XTS radio toward the purchase of a new APX6000 or
APX6500 or a $250 credit toward the purchase of a new APX4000 or APX4500 for orders placed by December 21, 2018.

Motorola needs to receive the purchase orders by the date listed above to honor the trade-in credits. You will not be invoiced by Motorola Solutions until your radios are programmed. The company is also offering financing options for 3, 4, or 5 years.

It should be noted that, unlike the bulk purchase, radios purchased will not be shipped to the county for programming. The transaction is between MSI and the agency that orders the radios. When the radios are delivered to the agency that ordered them, MSI will provide the county with the information needed to register the radios in the county database and radio management system. Once that is done, MSI representatives will be able to program the agency’s radios.

For additional information or to place an order, contact Rob Morella at Motorola Solutions: (267) 318-2132 or Robert.Morella@motorolasolutions.com.

Retirement

Congratulations to George Fida, who retired from Horsham Township earlier this month. George began his career in Horsham in 1997 after retiring from the Philadelphia Fire Department as a Line Officer. During his career in Horsham, George held the positions of Police Dispatcher, Code Enforcement Officer, Fire Marshal, and Emergency Management Coordinator.

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety would like to thank George for his years of service and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

Department of Public Safety Personnel Changes

Brandon M. Malamut recently became the newest member of the Montgomery County EMS Training Team. Brandon will serve as the EMS Training Assistant, a newly created position, and will coordinate numerous projects within the EMS Training Institute. Brandon is a certified paramedic and has been active for many years with Grandview Health, VMSC-Lansdale, and Souderton Community Ambulance. A veteran of the US Army National Guard, he has served as a combat medic and military healthcare specialist. Brandon will be busy working to facilitate EMT and Paramedic training across the County and will also be involved in community outreach.

Bmalamut2@montcopa.org
(610) 278-2666
Public Safety Training Campus, 2nd Floor
Amy Marshall recently accepted the position of Public Safety Information Coordinator, replacing Jason Emmel. Amy was most recently employed by Columbia County, PA where she worked as a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Technician for three years. Prior to this appointment, she worked for a nonprofit organization where she utilized GIS to plan and map trails for public use and land conservation. In her new role, Amy will create, analyze, and maintain geospatial data for the Department of Public Safety, and will make maps to support county and municipal planning and response efforts. Amy holds a Bachelor of Science in Marine Studies and Environmental Sciences from Stony Brook University and a Master’s Degree in Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis from the University at Albany.

amarshall@montcopa.org
(610) 631-6534
Emergency Operations Center

Ed Martin, Jr. recently accepted the position of EMS Field Specialist, replacing Jessica Pickett. He comes to DPS after serving as the Executive Director/Chief of the Lafayette Ambulance and Rescue Squad for two years. Ed, a certified paramedic, previously worked for the Department of Public Safety in both the Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Communications Divisions. Ed’s new responsibilities include overseeing a quality assurance program, investigating complaints, overseeing emergency preparedness for EMS agencies, overseeing various pilot programs, coordinating the medical advisory committee, maintaining the database for Narcan administrations, and serving as a liaison to the Montgomery County Emergency Healthcare Zone. Ed will also serve as an on-call Emergency Management responder.

emartin@montcopa.org
(610) 631-6508
Emergency Operations Center

After serving since June 2014 as the Municipal Planning Specialist within the Division of Emergency Management, Todd Stieritz recently accepted the position of Public Affairs Coordinator, replacing John Corcoran. Todd will serve as one of the department Public Information Officers and will manage all social media accounts, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Nextdoor, and YouTube. He will respond to inquiries from the news media and public and will produce press releases. Todd will also maintain the department website and promote the public image of the department at community events.

tstierit@montcopa.org
(610) 631-6544
Emergency Operations Center
Entry Level Firefighter Graduation

Forty-one volunteer firefighters from Montgomery Fire Academy Class 1804 celebrated the completion of the Pennsylvania Entry Level Firefighter Training program with a graduation ceremony on Wednesday, November 28th.

These men and women will protect their communities as firefighters in 39 volunteer and combination fire companies in Montgomery, Berks, Chester, and Delaware Counties.

Dr. Deborah Feairheller, Assistant Professor of Health and Exercise Physiology and Director of the HEART Laboratory at Ursinus College (who is also a volunteer firefighter) gave the commencement speech.

Firefighter Paul Mattes of the Ludwig’s Corner Fire Department in Berks County received the award for highest grade in Interior Firefighter.

Congratulations to all. Below is a list of graduates:

- Firefighter Jordan Adams, Norco
- Firefighter Rajiv Anand, East Whiteland
- Firefighter Mary Armstrong, Good Will
- Firefighter Prakash Bhuyan, Barren Hill
- Firefighter Alex Caballero, North End
- Firefighter Megan Caterino, East Whiteland
- Firefighter Rashad Cole, North End
- Firefighter Joseph Cunningham, Radnor
- Firefighter Christopher DiFerdinando, Perkiomen
- Firefighter Lauren Dragan, Earl Township
- Firefighter Michael Dyszel, Ridge
- Firefighter Daniel Fantini, Centre Square
- Firefighter Evan Gabel, Phillies
- Firefighter Chris Halligan, Orelan
- Firefighter William Helenski, Jr., Swedeland
- Firefighter Thomas Helenski, George Clay
- Firefighter Katherine Israelite, Union
- Firefighter Kaylee Karaban, Telford
- Firefighter Kevin Kelley, Belmont Hills
- Firefighter Ryan Kramer, Berwyn
- Firefighter Israel Kroizer, Union

- Firefighter Miles Koziol, South Media
- Firefighter Mary Anne Maguire, Llanerch
- Firefighter Paul Mattes, Ludwig’s Corner
- Firefighter Ballie McGrory, Black Rock
- Firefighter Christian McIlhenny, Worcester
- Firefighter Sean McNamee, Towamencin
- Firefighter Scott Miesen, Berwyn
- Firefighter Kyle Moyer, Earl Township
- Firefighter Matthew Schroeder, Amity
- Firefighter Timothy Sibley, Orelan
- Firefighter Matthew Smith-Tucker, Berwyn
- Firefighter Christopher Steiger, Black Rock
- Firefighter William Suter, Barren Hill
- Firefighter Randall Tasker, Exeter
- Firefighter John Thomas, Merion
- Firefighter Justin Thomas, Telford
- Firefighter Alexis Thompson, Earl Township
- Firefighter Timothy Trego, North End
- Firefighter Peter Tuma, Conshohocken
- Firefighter John Webster, Royersford
Career Opportunities

The Department of Public Safety is now accepting applications for three positions within the Division of Emergency Management.

The Municipal Planning Specialist will serve as the lead for the development and maintenance of the Montgomery County Emergency Operations Plan, municipal emergency operation plans, and supporting documentation, and will provide analysis of public safety activities and recommend risk mitigation strategies to support planning activities. The desired candidate must have the ability to collect, distribute, and analyze processes to integrate internal and external information sources to produce a full range of situational awareness and common operating communication products to include incident action plans, map/GIS based situational awareness products, and pre-event plans.

This position requires availability 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. This is an Essential Employee position. Essential Employees are obligated to report to work as scheduled or remain at work during emergencies.

The Part Time Radiological Planner is responsible for radiological emergency response planning and training. The Radiological Planner produces and reviews emergency plans for response to incidents at the Limerick Generating Station, and coordinates county, municipal, and school participation in associated drills.

This position requires attendance at evening and weekend meetings and is subject to 24 hour, 7-day call for weather, hazardous materials, and man-made emergencies in addition to Limerick Generating Station response.

The Training and Exercise Coordinator works to develop, coordinate, and execute community-wide disaster drills, exercises, and training programs to enhance the County's preparedness.

This position requires availability 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. This is an Essential Employee position. Essential Employees are obligated to report to work as scheduled or remain at work during emergencies.

For complete job descriptions and to download an application, please visit us on the web: https://www.montcopa.org/jobs.aspx

Training Announcements

The Department of Public Safety would like to make you aware of several upcoming training opportunities:

The Chester County Department of Emergency Services is offering ICS-400: Advanced ICS on Thursday, December 20th and Friday, December 21st at the Chester County Public Safety Training Campus in Coatesville, PA.

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety, EMS Training Institute is offering Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from February 4, 2019 until May 1, 2019. The Institute is also offering Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and occasional Saturdays and Sundays between January 3, 2019 and August 8, 2019. Both courses will be held at the Public Safety Training Campus.
Please see the November 2018 Notices for detailed course descriptions and registration information. For information on other upcoming training opportunities, visit https://veoci.com/veoci/p/dashboard/7turvnnnqu.

The position of Training and Exercise Coordinator is currently vacant. In the interim, please direct all training and exercise questions to Jason Wilson, Deputy Director for Emergency Management. Jason can be reached at jwilson@montcopa.org or (610) 631-6519.