Montgomery County 9-1-1 is now hiring!

Have you ever wondered what it’s like to help another person in their time of greatest need? Do you work well as a member of a team? Do you typically find yourself remaining calm even in high stress situations? Are you looking for an exciting new career?

If so, you’re in luck! The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety is now recruiting motivated and dedicated individuals for the next class of telecommunicators. Our telecommunicators answer 9-1-1 calls and dispatch emergency responders to police, fire, and medical incidents.

Interested individuals can submit an application by clicking HERE. Once the application is received, you will be contacted to schedule initial testing. Knowledge of Montgomery County or previous dispatching experience is not required to succeed on the test. Instead, it gauges an applicant’s ability to type, think critically, and multitask.

Applicants who are successful on the test will then be invited to an interview process, after which a short job shadowing experience is provided before top candidates are offered employment. The training academy will last approximately 8-9 weeks, and then telecommunicators will start on-the-job training in the Emergency Communications Center.

Multiple career paths are available for telecommunicators, including answering 9-1-1 calls, dispatching police, fire, and EMS, and responding out in the field as part of the Tactical Communications Team.

For more information, visit mcdps.org or contact Maryann Longo at (610) 631-6512.

Potential applicants should note that telecommunicators are considered essential personnel and will be required to report for work regardless of weather conditions.

### 2019 Telecommunicator Compensation and Benefits

- Starting salary of $35,605.41, with an increase after initial training
- Health, vision, dental, and prescription insurance
- Long term disability insurance and life insurance
- Pension plan
- Tuition & continuing education reimbursement
- Optional credit union membership
- Annual paid time off: 80 hours of vacation time (increasing to 120 after 5 years of service), 40 hours of personal time, 96 hours of sick leave, and 10 paid holidays
The Eastern Montgomery County Emergency Management Group and Montgomery County Department of Public Safety are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the Emergency Disaster Incident Training Symposium (EDITS). The theme for this year’s conference is “Learning from the Past, Preparing for the Future.” The 2019 EDITS Conference will be held on Tuesday, May 7th and Wednesday, May 8th. Presentations will include:

**Route 91 Tragedy**  
*Deputy Chief Chris Darcy, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department*  
*Firefighter Dean McAuley, Valley Regional Fire Authority*  
*Misty Robinson, Southern Nevada Health District*

**Merrimack Valley Gas Crisis**  
*Brian Moriarty, Lawrence Fire Chief*

**Trauma on the Job: A Training for First Responders & Direct Care Providers**  
*Sheriff Timothy S. Whitcomb, Cattaraugus County Sheriff’s Office*

**The Seven Deadly Sins of Emergency Management**  
*Craig Fugate, Former FEMA Administrator*

**Behind the Scenes of the Disney OEM**  
*Jenifer Mason, Security Manager—Emergency Management, Walt Disney World*

**Cosmo DiNardo Case**  
*Matthew Weintraub, Bucks County District Attorney*  
*Officer Megan Freer, Middletown Police Department*

**The Human Side of Aurora**  
*Captain Stephen Redfearn, Aurora Police Department*

EDITS will be held at the Normandy Farm Hotel & Conference Center in Blue Bell, PA. Registration for the full conference costs $150.00 per person. Register at [www.emema.org](http://www.emema.org).

An Evening for Volunteers, offered at no cost to volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel within Montgomery County (Out-of-county fee is $15/person), will be held on Monday, May 6th from 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM, also at the Normandy Farm Hotel & Conference Center. Presentation topics will include the Merrimack Valley Gas Crisis, the Barclay Friends Nursing Home Fire, and the Bensalem Township Gas Station Explosion and Trench Rescue. Register for An Evening for Volunteers at [www.emema.org](http://www.emema.org).

See the January 2019 Notices for additional information. For questions or comments, call (215) 635-3739 or (215) 643-1600 ext. 3221.
Department of Public Safety Personnel Changes

Michael Davis recently accepted the position of Intelligence Analyst with the Department of Public Safety. Mike was most recently employed as a document and media exploitation analyst supporting DEA investigations in Chicago. In his new role, Mike will be analyzing data and creating intelligence products to support the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety as well as external stakeholders. Mike is a veteran of the Army Reserve and has served as a Military Police Officer and Intelligence Analyst. Mike holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from the University of Delaware and is currently working towards a Master of Science in Cybersecurity at DePaul University.

mdavis@montcopa.org
(610) 631-6500
Emergency Operations Center

Taylor Hawkins recently accepted the position of Municipal Planning Specialist, replacing Todd Stieritz, who became the Public Affairs Coordinator in November 2018. Taylor was most recently employed by the Montgomery County Office of Public Health as a Disease Intervention Specialist where she was responsible for tracking and investigating communicable and non-communicable diseases. In addition to her experience with the Office of Public Health, Taylor has experience with FEMA Corps where she spent time in the Planning Section. Taylor holds a bachelor’s degree in Public Health from Temple University.

thawkins@montcopa.org
(610) 631-6500
Emergency Operations Center

Aid Still Available for Residents and Businesses after August Flooding

Homeowners, renters, and business owners in Montgomery County are still eligible to apply for U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) loan assistance to support recovery from late summer flooding, but the application filing deadline for physical property damage is quickly approaching.

Low-interest loans of up to $200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, or up to $40,000 to repair or replace personal property. Businesses and nonprofits can borrow up to $2 million to restore damaged or
destroyed buildings, inventory, equipment, and assets. Loan amounts and terms are
set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial qualifications.

Individuals and businesses may obtain information and loan applications by calling the
SBA’s Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing
impaired), or by e-mailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can
also be obtained at www.sba.gov/disaster. Applicants may apply online using the
Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA’s secure website at
https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S.
Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport
Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is February 11,
2019. The deadline to return economic injury disaster loan applications is September
11, 2019.

Source: https://www.governor.pa.gov/governor-wolf-announces-aid-available-26-counties-following-record-
shattering-summer-rains/?fbclid=IwAR113oWfnWHT0BteNNTY1oDBH0NIqmJWT2DfqNM8Uas6f2gLBDQqFmFNqfg

Emergency Management Certification Awarded

Gregory R. Breyer, Limerick Township
Emergency Management Coordinator, was
recently presented with his Pennsylvania
Emergency Management Agency Local
Professional Certification by Jason Wilson,
Deputy Director for Emergency Management,
Montgomery County Department of Public
Safety. Congratulations Greg!

Do you work or volunteer for a municipal
emergency management agency in Montgomery
County? If so, you are eligible (and may be
required) to pursue your PEMA certifications.
Checklists are available here: Basic, Advanced,
and Professional. Contact Jason Wilson at
jwilson@montcopa.org for additional information.

EMS Institute Training Announcements

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety, EMS Training Institute is offering
several courses starting in the spring:

- Paramedic Prep Course: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays between March
  2019 and April 24, 2019
- Instructor Methodology Course: Thursday March 7th, Saturday March 9th,
  Sunday March 10th, Tuesday March 12th, and Thursday March 14th
- Paramedic Course: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays between May 20,
  2019 and December 14, 2020
- Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and
  Explosive (CBRNE) Events: Tuesday June 4th and Wednesday June 5th

All courses will be held at the Public Safety Training Campus. Please see the January
2019 Notices for detailed course descriptions and registration information.
16th Annual Command Officer Seminar

On Saturday, January 26th, over one hundred fire chiefs and fire officers attended the 16th Annual Command Officer Seminar at the Montgomery County Public Safety Training Campus. The morning session featured Dennis L. Rubin, Chief of the Upper Merion Fire Department and Dr. James Augustine, Medical Director for Fire/EMS agencies in Atlanta, GA, Naples, FL, and Dayton, OH, who presented on the Atlanta, GA Fire/Rescue response to the tragic active shooter event that took place on March 11, 2005. This session also included a report by Thomas Nolan, Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police for Upper Merion Township on the Montgomery County Active Threat Response Plan.

Afternoon breakout sessions covered various topics, including the role of the Public Information Officer, fire company consolidation, tourniquet use, Critical Incident Stress Management, supplementing standpipe/sprinkler systems, and mass casualty incidents.

The Command Officer Seminar was funded by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force with Homeland Security Grant funds. Thank you to all presenters and fire officers who made the day a success!

Fire Academy Training Announcements

The Montgomery County Fire Academy is offering Truck Company Operations Level II for the first time this spring. The 16-hour course will be held on Tuesday April 9th (18:45-22:00), Thursday April 11th (18:45-22:00), and Saturday April 13th (08:15-16:30) at the Public Safety Training Campus. Topics covered during this advanced course will include Thermal Imaging Camera skills, Bilco door forcible entry, chain cutting, removal of window bars, overhead door removal, aerial ladder climbing, and large area search/rescue.

The Montgomery County Fire Academy is offering a Firefighter I Certification Preparation Class and Certification Testing this spring. The course will be held on Sunday March 31st (8:15-16:45), Sunday April 14th (8:15-16:45), Sunday April 28th (8:15-16:45), Saturday May 11th (8:15-16:45), Wednesday May 15th (19:00-21:00), and Saturday May 18th (08:00-16:00).

Please see the January 2019 Notices for additional information on both courses.
Congratulations to Lower Pottsgrove Township Police Sergeant Bob Greenwood (second from left), who retired earlier this month from the department with over 30 years of service and will begin a new role as a school police officer for Spring-Ford School District in the near future.

Community Outreach Coordinator Tim Elbertson was recently honored and thanked for three years of service as a co-chair of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force Access and Functional Needs Subcommittee. Pictured to the left of Tim is co-chair Karen Leslie-Henry, who was also honored.

EMS Field Specialist Ed Martin and School Safety Specialist Dean Miller recently presented to the nursing students at Montgomery County Community College on emergency management, active shooter awareness, and disaster preparedness for health care workers.
G290 Course Offering

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management is hosting PEMA G290 Basic Public Information Officer on Tuesday February 12th and Wednesday February 13th. The class will run from 08:00 to 16:00 both days and will be held at the Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center (50 Eagleville Road, Eagleville, PA 19403).

“This training will equip participants with the basic skills needed to be full- or part-time PIOs such as oral and written communications, and understanding and working with the media, and basic tools and techniques needed to perform effectively.”

There are only a handful of available seats at the time of printing. To register, visit https://www.train.org/pa/course/1066853/live_event. You will need to create a TRAIN PA account in order to register. Contact Jason Wilson at jwilson@montcopa.org for assistance.

What’s Happening in Emergency Management

On Wednesday January 16th, over 45 municipal emergency management personnel met at the Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center to learn about important Department of Public Safety updates that will affect their operations in 2019. Highlights of the program included:

The new APX 4000 800 MHz radios for emergency management coordinators will be distributed on Wednesday February 6th. Radios can be picked up from the Emergency Operations Center (50 Eagleville Road, Eagleville, PA 19403) between 08:30 and 16:00, or between 19:00 and 21:00. Two (2) existing radios must be turned in to receive a new radio. Alternate arrangements can be facilitated for municipalities that cannot attend, but every effort should be made to send a representative on 2/6.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force has approved the purchase of WebEOC as the new EOC management program. Implementation of WebEOC in Montgomery County will start in the next few weeks and will conclude on April 1st. Information on training for municipal staff will be distributed shortly. There will be no data transition from Knowledge Center, and Knowledge Center will be unavailable after 4/1. Municipalities should record offline any essential information from KC prior to that date.

Contact Jason Wilson, Deputy Director for Emergency Management, at jwilson@montcopa.org if you have questions.