

Member & Chapter Services

If you have something you would like to see in the newsletter please send it to:

MCSCNewsletter@apcointl.org

We are always looking for content to share with everyone. We know you have something to brag about whether it be your agency or your chapter.

Be sure to include your agency name or chapter when submitting.

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Membership Information

Member Type	9/1/2023	9/1/2024
Associate Members	2,348	2,264
Full Members	4,228	4,146
Full Group Members	9,344	9,875
Online Group Members	24,014	24,211
Commercial Members	475	440
Commercial Group Members	352	326
Student/Educator Members	0	29
Total Number of Members	40,761	41,291
Total Number of Group Agencies	1,622	1,730
Commercial Groups	48	51

Silent Key

Garrett Mayer CPRA Chapter

We have learned that Garrett passed away on July 3rd, 2024

For more information, his Silent Key can be found here:

https://www.apcointl.org/psc/ silent-key-garrett-mayer/



Don Nielson Illinois Chapter

We have learned that Don passed away on September 18th, 2024

For more information, his Silent Key can be found here:

https://www.apcointl.org/psc/ silent-key-don-nielson/



You've spoken, and we have listened! The 9-1-1 Staffing Task Force is pleased to announce the second annual 9-1-1 Staffing Crisis Summit, October 22-24, 2024, in Ft. Worth, TX.

This event will be geared towards ECC's of every size and governance model and offer concepts that reach beyond the surface level of recruiting and hiring, to touch the root cause of staffing shortages: attrition. You will hear from industry experts and peers about successful methods of increasing retention, engagement, and satisfaction in your ECC. You will also gain tools to address common issues such as culture, change resistance, and contributors to toxicity and attrition. You will also learn about the technological and cultural evolution of the 9-1-1 industry and the 9-1-1 professional of tomorrow. The summit is in a plenary setting, to maximize cross collaboration and problem solving. If you are a 9-1-1 leader, and are experiencing hiring and retention challenges, this summit is for you. To learn more about the summit and register, please visit:

9-1-1 Staffing Crisis Summit (appointl.org)

Commercial Advisory Committee

What Does APCO Mean to You?

The Commercial Advisory Council (CAC) is excited to bring to you the latest in our video series

What Does APCO Mean to You?

Tune in to our CAC members explaining why APCO is so important to them. They also provide insight into the value of an APCO commercial membership.

Click on the link to hear testimony from our own <u>Derek Dugas</u> with <u>Sustema!</u>

We also want to recognize and thank <u>Virtual Academy</u> and Kelly Sanders-Kelley for their generosity in creating and publishing these videos for our APCO Community.

Submitted by:

Diva C. Miranda Jones Senior Sales Engineer at Carbyne



https://www.apcointl.org/community/commercial-community/commercial-advisory-council/

Historical Committee

Remembering Our Past Life Member Paul Linnee, ENP



This month we will be remembering past Life Member Paul Linnee. Paul was born and raised in Minnesota where he spent most of his career in Public Safety. He started as a police officer and firefighter and starting in 1970, he dedicated his career to Public Safety Communications and 911. He served in the administrative capacity for the City of Richfield and then as the Director of 911 for the City of Minneapolis. After 24 years in public service, Paul joined the commercial side of our industry. Paul was a co-owner and Principal Consultant with GeoComm Corporation.

Paul was very active in both APCO, NENA, and several other trade organizations. He served as the chapter president and as the first chairperson for APCO's National 911 Committee. He was an APCO Executive Council representative and served on a committee in the 1990s that led to APCO's association with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement for emergency communications center accreditation. Paul was instrumental in bringing 911 to Minneapolis in the late 70s and early 80s. He was instrumental in designing the Minneapolis ECC that served the city for nearly 30 years. When cellphones started to be deployed, Paul implemented a wireless backup for the center. He was a visionary, bringing many of the communication leaders together to discuss a metro areawide radio communications system. At the time, APCO Project 16 was the standard for such a system. This was the seed that eventually became the Minnesota ARMER system providing statewide radio communications for all public safety in Minnesota based on the APCO P25 Standards.

He was an author of several articles and wrote the book "Yuk I Hate Technical Stuff" which was written in a language lay people could understand. He provided consulting services on many projects for PSAPs, 911 phones, and radio systems while in the private sector. He provided expert witness testimony for several cases nationwide involving emergency communications center response.

Paul passed away December 10, 2023, after a 10-year battle with pulmonary fibrosis. I had the privilege of knowing Paul as a friend and colleague.

Submitted by:

Life Member Charles Venske, RPL, ENP

Have You Heard?

For the past twelve years the Historical Committee has been recording video interviews with our past APCO presidents and Life Members and posting them on YouTube! To date there are 66 videos posted, including several of members who are no longer with us, including Past President Gregg Riddle and First Vice President Elect Mark Spross.

You can view these videos on YouTube under: Reminiscing with APCO History Makers

Health & Wellness Committee

Creating a Wellness Plan: Setting Personal Wellness Goals and Strategies

In the fast-paced world of 911 dispatch centers, taking care of your well-being is crucial. As dispatchers, you play a vital role in coordinating life-saving efforts, and it's essential to prioritize your health and wellness. One effective way to do this is by creating a personalized wellness plan tailored to your unique needs and goals.

A wellness plan is more than just a list of healthy habits; it's a roadmap to better physical, mental, and emotional well-being. By setting clear goals and strategies, you can proactively address challenges and strengthen resilience in the demanding emergency dispatch environment.

Step 1: Start by reflecting on your current health and wellness status. What areas do you want to improve in the next 90 days? Common goals for dispatchers include:

- Stress Management: Develop techniques to cope with high-pressure situations.
- Physical Fitness: Enhance strength, endurance, and overall fitness.
- Nutrition: Improve eating habits for better energy and health.
- Sleep Quality: Establish a bedtime routine for restorative sleep.
- Mental Health: Prioritize self-care and seek support when needed.

Step 2: Set SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, rRelevant, and Time-bound) for each area. Setting SMART goals increases your chances of success. An example of SMART goals for each of the above areas are as follows:

- Stress Management: Practice deep breathing exercises and mindfulness meditation for 10 minutes each morning to reduce daily stress levels.
- Physical Fitness: Engage in 30 minutes of moderate-intensity cardio exercise (such as jogging or cycling) and 15 minutes of strength training exercises, three times per week to improve cardiovascular health and muscle tone.
- Nutrition: Eat at least three servings of vegetables and two servings of fruit daily to improve dietary habits.
- Sleep Quality: Establish a bedtime routine that includes winding down for 30 minutes without screens to improve sleep quality.
- Mental Health: Attend one therapy or counseling session every two weeks to support mental health.
- Personal Connections: Reach out to at least two friends or family members each week to strengthen personal relationships.

Health & Wellness Committee (continued)

Step 3: Once you've identified your wellness goals, it's time to create strategies to achieve them. What actions are you going to take to meet these goals? What do you need to obtain these goals?

- Stress Management: Set up a meditation area at home. Make a meditation playlist. Download a meditation app.
- Physical Fitness: Identify a gym or fitness area for workouts. Map out a walking/jogging route around your home or work.
- Nutrition: Shop at local farmers' markets for fresh fruits and vegetables. Set aside time each week to prep fruits or vegetables.
- Sleep Quality: Make a sleep playlist. Purchase a calming book to read before bed. Use a sleep tracker to track sleep.
- Mental Health: Contact a mental health agency. Purchase a journal to track progress.
- Personal Connections: Set up a text chain with friends. Schedule an appointment on your calendar to reach out to others.

Remember, creating a wellness plan is not a solo endeavor. Encourage your colleagues and loved ones to join you on this journey toward better health and resilience. By supporting each other and fostering a culture of wellness within your team and family, you can thrive personally and professionally.

As 911 dispatchers, your well-being is essential. By creating and implementing a wellness plan tailored to your needs, you can enhance your overall quality of life, better manage stress, and continue to excel in your critical role. It's important to refill your tank so you can continue to help others.



Health & Wellness Committee (continued)

WELLNESS GOALS FOR THE NEXT	90 DAYS
GOAL ACHEIVING STRATEGIES	GOAL ACHEIVING STRATEGIES
GOAL ACHEIVING STRATEGIES	GOAL ACHEIVING STRATEGIES
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News from the Georgia Chapter



The Cherokee County 9-1-1 Foundation officially announced its formation and launch April 12, 2024, with a mission to support, advocate, and advance Cherokee County E9-1-1. As the voice of 9-1-1, this non-profit organization is dedicated to making a lasting impact through initiatives including a dispatcher emergency support fund, public awareness campaigns, education and training, support for the mental and physical well being of Cherokee County's E9-1-1 employees − including Ruby's needs & care and so much more. Ruby is E9-1-1's AKC Canine Certified Good Citizen who lives at the center. The successful E9-1-1 Community Outreach Unit's efforts will also be expanded through the Foundation. Deputy Director Alice Fennell and Jennifer Lasenyik were paramount in bringing this foundation to life after they were told a local grant for the purchase of Files for Life™ would not be possible due to there not being a 501c(3) to make the donation to. Based on our research, we believe this Foundation is the only Public Safety Foundation solely dedicated to supporting an E9-1-1 Center in the State of Georgia and we are very proud of that!!

Cherokee County E9-1-1 Deputy Director Alice Fennell shared, "We are so excited for the formation of the Cherokee County 911 Foundation. The goal is always to leave something better than you found it and the Foundation and its mission ensure that we do just that for both current and future Communications Officers in Cherokee County."

Cherokee County E9-1-1 at 58 strong, is the heartbeat of public safety in our community, answering all calls for the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services, Cherokee County Marshall's Office, Law Enforcement for our municipalities – Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock – as well as City of Woodstock Fire Department, the Cherokee County School District Police and Reinhardt University Public Safety.

The Cherokee County E9-1-1 Foundation's Founding Board of Directors is comprised of passionate community servant leaders who champion public safety. Their unwavering dedication will ensure that the organization operates with transparency, integrity, and purpose. Their immense pride in their community is a direct correlation to their support of Cherokee County E9-1-1, which was recently named Georgia's 2023 E9-1-1 Center of the Year. "Our board was built thoughtfully and intentionally, and our board members are putting in the work and are dedicated to building the Foundation to make a real difference at our Cherokee County E9-1-1. We've already seen great success in our community by advocating, able to provide emergency funds, training opportunities and funding Ruby's needs and care. The Foundation is extremely honored to support this exceptional team of First Responders," said Foundation President, Lori Flink, President of Allegro Business Products.

Cherokee County E9-1-1 Director Shane Bonebrake stated, "I am beyond amazed at the Board of Directors this Foundation has been blessed with. Powerful, Caring, Honorable, Impactful and Insightful are just some of the words to describe this amazing Board."

News from the Georgia Chapter (Continued)

We invite you to learn more about the Cherokee County 911 Foundation. Visit us online at https://www.cherokeega-911.org/foundation-about, follow us on social media, and support our efforts by becoming a Heartbeat Partner by donating \$9.11, which allows our *Heart to Beat!* We also have our First Annual Cornhole Tournament and Autumn Bash November 2, 2024, at Etowah River Park in Canton, GA and invite you to sign up for a cornhole team, sponsor or just come out and enjoy the day supporting Cherokee County E9-1-1.

For media inquiries, please contact:

Lori Flink, Email: cc911FoundationPresident@gmail.com, 404-395-3454

Note: The Cherokee County 911 Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

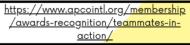
Teammates in Action



Be sure to nominate your Teammates in Action

DAILY ACTIONS
BY HEADSET
HEROES.

WE'RE
WORKING TO
BRING THESE
MOMENTS TO
LIGHT AND
NEED YOUR
NOMINATIONS!





https://www.apcointl.org/membership/awards-recognition/teammates-in-action/

Humor Under The Headset



I got a call one day from a female who was very concerned and told me that she had found human remains. When I asked further questions she told me that she had found what seemed to be human remains inside of her garbage can in front of her house. She said that it smelled really bad and was extremely disgusting. The officer went out later and found out that it was rotting chicken that was still inside the grocery store chicken packaging that was left inside the garbage can!



We need your funny stories!!!!

Email to: www.headset humor@apcointl.org

Upcoming Conferences









Celebrating 40 Years of Ghostbusters

It's been 40 years since the Ghostbusters first captured our hearts and showed us how to tackle ghosts with style and humor. This iconic franchise has given us countless laughs, thrills, and memorable moments. As we celebrate this monumental anniversary, we're inspired by their spirit of teamwork and problem-solving.

Introducing Stress Busters: Who Ya Gonna Call?

In the same vein, we present to you our upcoming 911 conference theme: **Stress Busters!** Just as the Ghostbusters tackled the supernatural, we're here to help you tackle stress with practical tools and techniques. Join us for a transformative event dedicated to relieving stress, fostering mental well-being, and promoting professional growth.

Conference Highlights:

- **Stress Busters HQ**: Step into our headquarters designed to resemble the iconic Ghostbusters HQ, but with a stress-relief twist.
- **Stress Buster Gear**: Don your own stress-busting gear and join us in various activities designed to alleviate stress.
- Relaxation Zones: Discover serene relaxation zones equipped with everything you need to unwind.
- Interactive Activities: Engage in fun and stress-relief activities, including crafting your own stress balls and participating in our stress monster scavenger hunt.

Expert Speakers: Learn from wellness enthusiasts, therapists, and motivational speakers about effective stress management techniques.

Join us for this unique 911 conference where we combine the nostalgia of Ghostbusters with modern stress relief strategies. It's time to bust stress like never before!

Date: October 16-18, 2024

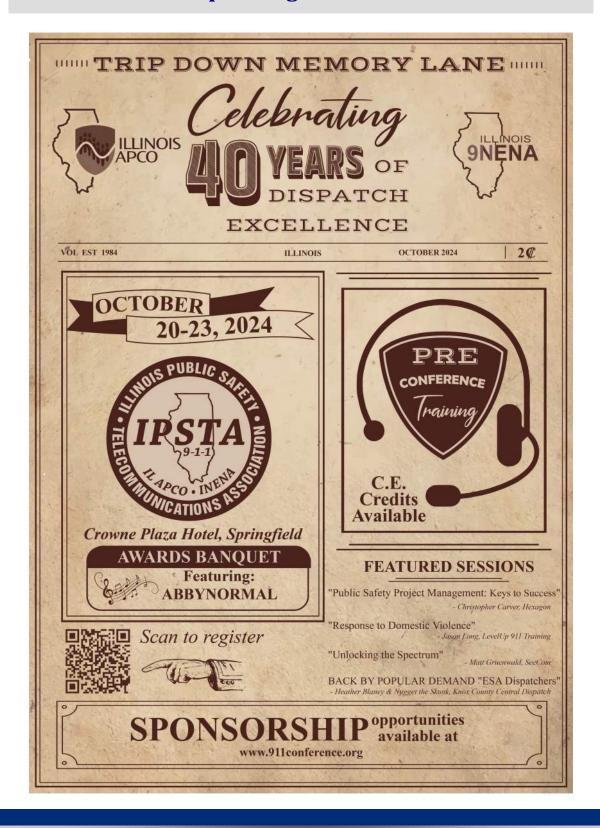
Location: Spokane Convention Center

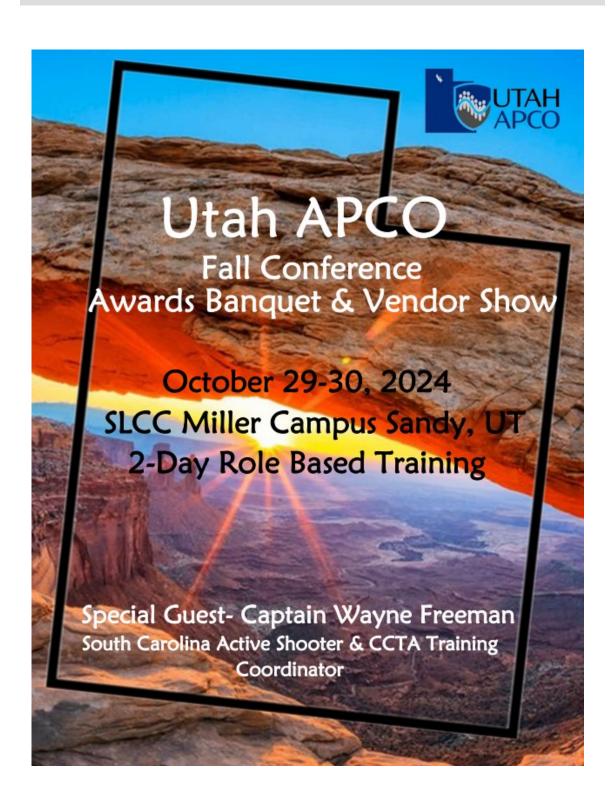
Registration: Conference Event and Registration Link

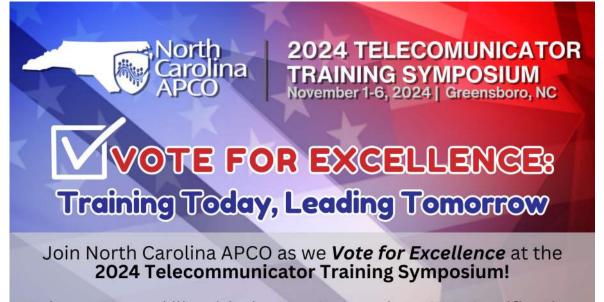
Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to celebrate, learn, and bust stress. Who ya gonna

call? Stress Busters!

Upcoming Conferences







Enhance your skills with the Pre-Symposium CTO Certification Course from November 1-3, followed by the NC APCO Annual Training Symposium from November 4-6.

WWW.TCSYMPOSIUM.ORG



2024 ATLANTIC-APCO CONFERENCE

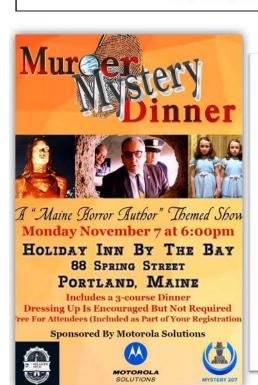
Join more than 200 public safety dispatchers, agency leaders, and corporate partners at this three-day professional development, networking, and exhibitor engagement event. This year our Keynote Speaker is Ricardo Martinez, of the #IAM911 Movement. We also have some great Monday night entertainment, a Murder Mystery Dinner, which is included with registration. Come join us!



Registration is OPEN!

To register and view the conference schedule (including the classes being offered) visit our website:

https://apcoatlanticconference.org/



Keynote Speaker

Ricardo Martinez



Ricardo Martinez is a storyteller, author, and the host and creator of Within the Trenches- True Stories from the 9-1-1 Dispatchers Who Live Them, a podcast based on the experience of being a 9-1-1 dispatcher. He is a former 9-1-1 dispatcher and supervisor of 13 years, and is now the head of Within the Trenches Media, with 22 years of public safety experience. In August 2016, Ricardo started the #IAM911 movement that spread from the United States to Canada, the U.K., and Australia. Its popularity and success have brought the Thin Gold Line into the spotlight and have opened the eyes of millions to what 9-1-1 dispatchers deal with daily.





WV 911 Telecommunicator Conference 2024 Linda G. Johnson Memorial

The Highlands Event Center

355 Wharton Cir, Suite 235 Triadelphia, WV 26059

Save the Date! November 18-22, 2024

Vendor Contact: Dean Meadows, dmeadows@wv911.com Dedicated Vendor Days; 11/20/2024 and 11/21/2024

wvapco.org



WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

In March 2025 we will be **"Taking Public Safety to New Heights!"** We look forward to hearing how you might contribute to that cause. Follow the link to the 2025 APCO Western Regional Conference website (www.apcowrc2025.org) and submit your presentation idea. Whether you're a new or experienced presenter – come share how the ECC community is Taking Public Safety to New Heights. The link to submit interest is: Call For Papers (apcowrc2025.org).

Mark all your calendars today for a meaningful and fun event: March 3-6, 2025 in beautiful Portland, Oregon. Easy airport, easy hotel, easy convention center. Easy to do. Plan ahead today!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2025 APCO WESTERN REGIONAL

PORTLAND CONVENTION CENTER

■ MARCH 3-6, 2025 ■



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER

CONFERENCE ROOM RATES

HYATT REGENCY PORTLAND AT THE OREGON CONVENTION CENTER

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