

January 2013

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Executive Directors Comments

The new year is here and is already going by to fast. As we begin the new year stop and think about where your squad has been and where it is going. Is your membership growing, is it staying the same, or is it declining? In today's world retaining memberhsip is one of the hardest things that a volunteer organization faces. Everyone is busy from the time that they get up in the morning to the time they lie down at night. Being a volunteer member of a rescue squad takes a lot of time out of one's life. Just the other day I was talking to one of our members and they have spent several days out of the past three weeks, training members of their squad and the local fire departments EVOC and VKF. Being a member does take time out of your schedule and there is a lot of training that you have to keep up to date. Just to keep up EVOC, VKF, BBP, Extrication, and First-Aid takes some several hours over the year. Why would anyone want to do this as a volunteer? The major reason that I have heard over the years is "the satisfaction of helping someone in an emergency situatiuon". It takes very special people to do what we as volunteer rescue squad members, do. It takes everyone in your unit to make things happen. There are a lot of times that we as members never receive a thank you for the services that we have performed. And when we do receive those thank yous, the letters and cards from people that we have helped, it makes you feel even better about what you do.

I am issuing a challenge to each of you this year, to say "Thank You" to your squads officers for stepping up and taking on the responsibility of running your squad. To the officers, tell your members how much you appreciate what they have done for your squad. One thing that I have learned over the years is that everyone likes to have a little "pat on the back" everyone once in a while. You will be surprised how much harder people will work for something, by simply giving them the recognition that they deserve.

I wish everyone a safe and prosperous New Year. Thank You to the State Officers, and to all of our members. All of you are very special and do an outstanding job to make your unit what it is today, and help make this a great Association.

In closing I want to say "Thank You" to our Office Manager Rose Beckner. You are the best! Thanks for everything that you do to make my job easier and for taking care of our great Association.

Stacy Rhodes Executive Director

A Message From Our State President John Weaver

Here we are again preparing for the upcoming year. We will be out traveling and visiting with the squads in February and June, Captain/Unit Director meetings in March and July. Lots of training options again this year with extrication, land search and swift water. Of course the convention will be in October at Pigeon Forge. Stacy at the state office is working on the symposium already so it will be bigger and better than last year. All the other officers are busy preparing for another year of serving you. While you are planning all of the region meetings and conventions and trainings that you want to come to, don't forget about all your local training that we have to keep up. Things like extrication recertification, Vanessa K. Free class, EVOC class, etc.

As I sit writing this article, one thing comes to mind, MONEY. We all are trying to get more funding for our individual squads and the officers are trying to get money for the association/state office. How are we going to do this? This year will be very hard on all departments. I had a meeting with my own county mayor this morning and we were discussing funding for the upcoming year. With the "fiscal cliff" and nobody willing to compromise, there will be more funding cuts for squads. Agencies such as United Way will decrease funding other agencies because their donations will be down. We are still working towards making rescue squads available for federal funds.

You need to start planning for not only this year but the upcoming couple of years. Spend money cautiously. Example, yes everyone would like a new truck, but if you could get by another year on the one you have, save that money back. Squads need to look at making sure that necessary services are not cut to the people they serve. Departments need to be putting back a rainy day fund because of the decrease that will be coming. There are some departments out there that are fortunate enough to get enough funding from sources such as county government and United Way. With the proposed budget cuts that could come, even these squads will be trying to do some form of fund raising.

Look at what others are doing around you. Try not to infringe on each other and take away someone else's fundraiser. What I mean is, we tried to do a poker run, the next year every volunteer agency around us was trying to do a poker run, our second year of the poker run bombed because everyone else was doing it. (Con't on page 8)

State Vice-President Kevin "Bucky" Ayers

Once again another year has come and we have put our best forward and seemed to make the best of it. The 2012 TARS Convention was a great success and I personally want to thank all that attended, competed, and gave their all. This year's memorial was one of the toughest times for all of us as we paid last tributes to a lot of special people who gave this organization all they had. I want to Thank everyone for the support I have received and for allowing me to serve a 2nd term as your TARS VP, it is an honor to do. Now as we get started into another year let's hit it wide open and give our all to make our training & membership one of the strongest in the area, I know everyone's life is so busy now that sometimes we have put our squad on the back burner and take care of the most important things in our lives our families and that is what should happen because they are the ones that puts up with us and supports all of us in what we love to do. A great friend of mine explained to me about what is the most important thing in our life, as he asked me this, my answer was my family. That is where I got my wakeup call when he made me realize that time was the most important thing, time is something you can never get back no matter what. Time is something we all give to this organization in training, calls, meetings and everyday operations. If we spend all this time training and we don't pass it on to others and give them the knowledge that we have learned, look at it as wasted time, because you spent that time away from your family and can never get that back to give them. Also if you don't pass on the training you have been given on to others, then what you have been taught in helping others in their time of need is not happening. I had never thought of any of this before, but it all makes sense, we all need to take the time we have here serious, because it is something we never get back. Think of all the times any of us have set in a squad meeting, training, or any other function we have to be at and we don't pay attention to what is going on. What have we wasted and taken away from ourselves. So next time you go to that weekend training whether it is at your local squad or any other thing you are at, please give it your all.

I hope as this rescue line comes out, all have had a safe and wonderful holiday and are now deciding what rescue college classes they would like to attend this year. There are several to choose from and they are spread out all over the state so that you don't have to travel so far away from home, so that you can keep the expenses down for your travel. If there is something you would like to see new in training please let the officers know and maybe it is something we can work on to have in the future. (Con't on page 11)

Region I Vice-President Stacy Large

First off let me thank you for allowing me to serve you and your squad as the Region I Vice-President for the coming year. I am looking forward to this coming year. Second, I hope everyone had a joyous holiday season.

Well convention has come and gone. A big thanks to all those who helped, attended, and competed, from the kids to the WATARS, to the TARS and the EMS Symposium. Ya'll are the ones who make this fun! We are looking forward to some interesting things for the 2013 symposium and convention.

I am looking forward to traveling around the region to visit those units I didn't get to visit outside region travels. With that said here is my challenge to the twenty squads in Region I. I would like to see at least two people from each unit at the February and June region meetings and also the March and July directors meetings. Come out and take some training on the state level this year. Whether you are from a big or medium or small unit have pride in this association and your local squad.

In closing take care of your personnel especially the young ones. They are yours and the associations future. Stay safe and if you need me or any of the other state officers call us, we are here for you, to help, answer questions, just to talk or fuss at too!

"A pint of sweat will save a gallon of blood" George S. Patton General, U.S. Army

Stacy Large



Region IIVice-President Jim Houston

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. As we start the New Year, now is the time for each squad to start planning the training that will help their members do their job more efficiently. At the February meeting, we need to discuss plans for our Region II picnic for later in the year. In order to make plans, we need your input as to which activities and competitions you would like to have at the picnic. Once again I thank you for your confidence and trust in re-electing me as your Region II Vice-President.

Jim Houston

Region III Vice-President Cecil Nunley

I would like to say thank you to all of those who voted and supported me for the 2013 Region III Vice-President. I hope for many great things to happen for TARS within the next year.

I hope everyone had Happy Holidays and everyone was safe. I hope to see many of you at the region meetings.

Cecil Nunley

("If you don't change the direction you are going, then you're likely to end up where you're heading..." John C. Maxwell

Region IV Vice-President Ross Guy

I hope Santa Claus was good to everyone and your New Year's resolutions come true. This year our February Region IV meeting will be hosted by the Humbolt Area Rescue Squad and the June meeting will be hosted by the Decatur County Rescue Squad. These meetings are for all squad members to attend, not just captains and unit directors. Come to the region meetings and learn what is going on within the association. It is a good time to pick up some new information. There is a variety of college level training classes scheduled for Region IV. Check the TARS website for locations and dates. Thanks again for your support in re-electing me as your Region IV Vice-President. If you need my help, I am only a phone call away. Look forward to seeing you during region travels and at the region meetings. Be careful! Be safe!

Ross Guy



Stephen R. Carden Foundation Update

We are happy to report we are moving forward with the Foundation's mission. We had some initial hesitancy because we did not meet our initial goals for donations, limiting our ability to disburse scholarship funds. The original plan called for \$20,000 from the founding members (Steve Carden, Angie Bowen and Todd Derrick, Doug Warren and VFIS) and \$20,000 from membership donations. To date the total donations stand at \$18,755. (THERE ARE ADDI-TIONAL PLEDGED FUNDS OF \$10,000 WHICH SHOULD BE RECEIVED IN JANUARY 2013, BRINGING THE TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED AND PLEDGED TO \$28,755) However, after much discussion on the part of the foundation's Board of Directors, we have decided to adhere to the spirit of the founders' original intent and use the interest from the funds we have to support TARS courses. Although we will not be able to offer scholarships to as many people as we had planned, we still hope to provide some help to personnel and services that need it.

In the past year we have had success in completing the 501c3 status of the Carden Foundation. This status has allowed us to provide tax filing statements to all non-anonymous contributors over \$250.

We would like to thank the following 2012 charter members: Roy Goddard, George and Earlene Young, Union County Rescue Squad and Pull-Apart of Knoxville. Charter Member status can be granted for any donation of \$1000.00 or more. Donations can be made by individuals, groups or organizations and can be made as honorariums or gifts.

Tax deductible donations can be made online with PayPal at www.tnars.org or by contacting the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squad State Office at 865-689-3256.

Stephen R. Carden Foundation Scholarships Now Available

The Stephen R. Carden Foundation is pleased to announce that we are able to award 14 scholarships for TARS College Classes for the year 2013. If you are interested in applying for one of these scholarships, you will find an application online at the TARS website (www.tnars.org). For questions, you may contact Stacy Rhodes at stacy@tnars.org or call the State Office at 865-689-3256. You will need to fill out the form in its entirety and mail to the state office by March 1, 2013. Incomplete forms and forms received after March 1st will not be considered. Applicants awarded scholarships will be notified by March 30.



(con't from the President)

Try working with other agencies in your area, such as all the volunteer fire departments get together and do a large county wide fish fry. It could be a winning scenario for all the departments.

If your department already does fundraising to survive, you will probably be doing more. Prepare your membership for this. Let them know what you could be facing as a squad. We do a fundraiser about twice a year, I believe that for my own squad to survive, we will be doing a lot more fundraising. A lot of people have said that they will not do a fundraiser unless it raises a lot of money. I believe that we will be doing more, smaller fundraisers to make up for all of the other cuts that could be on the near horizon. Prepare for what could be coming in the future. Do not live for today, make plans to keep your squad running for years to come.

We all need to tighten our belts and take care of our departments. Don't let yourselves get blindsided by what may or may not be coming!! These are just my thoughts. I hope I am wrong.

If the officers or I can be of service, feel free to give us a call or drop us an email. Thank you for your continued support of me as your President. Take care, see you all soon, God bless. John Weaver

2013 T	TRAININGS & MEETINGS SCHEDULE	& ME	ETINGS	SCH	EDULE
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<u>/</u> s	* A two year certification period remains effective for Level I Instructors.	d remains effect	ive for Level I Insta	nctors	****
SN.	* The annual fee has been adjusted at \$15 per year. It will be collected bi-annually. * Instructors in the Alpha Group are suggested to attend their regional update on odd years and those with the Brave Group on even years.	ted at \$15 per ye p are suggested to the Bravo Grou	ar. It will be collec) attend their region p on even years.	ted bi-annual al update on	
	* NOTTE: Locations for the 4 regional updates are set to better centralize access and accommodate the larger attendance.	for the 4 regional updates are set to accommodate the larger attendance	e set to better centra ndance	lize access an	kkkkkkkkkkkk
TI - COLE SULT	 Times and subject breakdowns are as follows (All Times Local). <u>NO</u> pro-registration is needed. Vehicle Extrication: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, Lunch: 12:30 - 1:30 pm, Bloodborne Pathogen: 1:30 - 2:30 pm, EVOC/VFK: 2:30 - 4:00 pm. 	are as follows (. 9:00 am - 12:30 p n: 1:30 - 2:30 pm	All Times Local). <u>NO</u> pre-regis m, Lunch: 12:30 - 1:30 pm, EVOC/VFK: 2:30 - 4:0	zs Local). <u>NO</u> pre-registratio Lunch: 12:30 - 1:30 pm, EVOC/VFK: 2:30 - 4:00 pm.	ation is needed. pm.
APRIL 2013]	2013 INSTRUCTOR UP-DATES - FEE: \$30 (2 YEAR FEE)	DATES - H	'EE: \$30 (2]	TEAR FE	E)
4/06 Reg I - Morristown 4/13	4/13 Reg II-Roane Co Res	4/20 Reg III-L	4/20 Reg III-LaVergne Rescue	4/27 Reg	4/27 Reg IV- Humboldt Area
* Driving directions are availa	* Driving directions are available for each location on the website www.tnars.org from the homepage link titled "Updates and Meetings".	site <u>www.tnars.org</u>	from the homepage li	lk titled "Updat	es and Meetings".
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JULY 20 DOUBLE TREE HOTEL MURFREESBORO, TN Reservations - 615-895-5555		Reg I- Hawkins Co - Jun 1 Reg II- Monroe Co - Jun 8 Reg III-Jackson Co - Jun 15 Reg IV- Decatur Co - Jun 22	Reg I- Reg II- Reg II Reg IV	MARCH 23 DOUBLE TREE HOTEL MURFREESBORO, TN Reservations - 615-895-5555	Reg I - Bean Station - Feb 2 Reg II - Loudon County Feb 9 Reg III - Tennessee City - Feb 16 Reg IV - Humboldt Area - Feb 23
BOARD OF DIRECTORS		JUNE REGION MTGS	JOC	BOARD OF DIRECTORS	FEBRUARY REG MTGS
		MEETINGS	- 2013	EVENTS CALENDAR - 2013 MEETINGS	
t on line at <u>www.tnars.org</u>	ation Are Available	ling. Printable Applia	or reschedu	md dates are subject to cancellations	Course Descriptions & Training classes and dates are subject to cancellations or rescheduling. Printable Application Are Available on line at www.inars.org
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RS- \$200*	0*, *NON-TAJ	MEMBERS - \$15	CIATE I	* ALL TRAINING FEES: *TARS - \$85*, *ASSOCIATE MEMBERS - \$150*, *NON-TARS - \$200*	* ALL TRAINING FI
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RSAR OPERATIONS	OEE RIVER	EAST POLK/OCOEE RIVER	o Rescue	Johnson City/Washington Co Rescue	Murfreesboro
	. ПП. 19-21	SWIFTWATTER L. TUR. 19-21	P 20-22	SCHOOL BUS RESCUE -SEP 20-22	MAR 1 & 2 - Doubletree Hotel
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TFSCEA	II - JUN 14 - 16	SWIFTWATTER II - JUN 14 - 16	YT 13-15	ADVANCED TRENCH - SEPT 13-15	PUTNAM CO RESCUE

(Con't from State Vice President)

As you come and take this training, go back home and practice it with your members that didn't get to attend and teach them the things you learned. Also in doing this let your community know what you are doing on the local level by getting articles in the newspaper and ask to be guest speakers at civic meetings. By doing this it helps build a relationship with everyone and let's the community know we are here and that we will always be there for them in their time of need. And when we have that call for help we are trained and have the capabilities to do the job. In closing I want to say THANK YOU for all you do and give to help anyone day or night, to do this job and never receive a dime for it means you are that special person.

May God Bless each and all. Bucky

"*Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is* progress. Working together is success".

- Henry Ford



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State Historian Dale Dodds

I hope the first of this year finds everyone happy and full of turkey and dressing! I would like to thank everyone for their support throughout the last two years and I am looking forward to seeing everyone this year in all four regions. I always enjoy seeing new people, buildings and equipment throughout Tennessee. I have already received emails and phone calls about this year's scrapbooks and hope to see even more competitors at the convention. This year the officers are facing new challenges, old problems and also a lot of new training coming up. This year could be a great year for TARS if we all help each other and - train - train - train. All scrapbook competitors need to be sure to check the competition rules and send photo's, stories and newspaper articles into me for credit towards your scrapbook scores. If anyone has any questions please give me a yell TARSHistorian@aol.com See you all soon. Dale Dodds

("It was character that got us out of bed, commitment that moved us into action, and discipline that enabled us to follow through."

Zig Ziglar

State Chaplain Bobby Darnell

Greetings:

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and are looking forward to a great new year. I want to thank you for electing me as your state Chaplain. I will do my best to earn your respect and to fulfill the duty's of this office. In so doing, I would like to update the state honor guard. Anyone interested in becoming a member, or if you are currently a member, please attend the honor guard meeting at the region meetings in February and June. I also have information to share with all Chaplains. Duty's of a Chaplain, and critical incident stress management.

Chaplain and Honor Guard meetings will be held at 4 P.M. at the region meetings. Looking forward to seeing you. Bobby Darnell

2013 ROPE RESCUE TRAINING SCHEDULE

Low Angle Rope Rescue – (No Prerequisites) 20 Hrs. / 2 Days 7AM-6PM Cost: TARS \$85, TARS Associate \$120, Non-TARS \$130 Dates: March 16-17, May 4-5, October 12-13, November 2-3

Operational Rope Rescue Two Weekends – (No Prerequisites)Class is Approved by The TN Commission on Fire Fighting Personnel Standards and Educationand Meets NFPA 1006 & 1670 Standards for Operational Rope Rescue40 Hrs. Fri Night 5PM –9PM, Sat. - Sun. 8AM-5PMCost: TARS \$190, TARS Associate \$220, Non-TARS \$240Dates: April 5-7 & 26-28, May 17-19, June 7-9, August2-4 & 23-25, September 6-8& 27-29

Operational Rope Rescue Monday-Friday – (No Prerequisites) Class is Approved by The TN Commission on Fire Fighting Personnel Standards and Education and Meets NFPA 1006 & 1670 Standards for Operational Rope Rescue 40 Hrs. 8AM-5PM Cost: TARS \$190, TARS Associate \$220, Non-TARS \$240 Dates: July 15-19 / September 16-20

Technician Rope Rescue Thursday – Sunday - (Prerequisite: Operational Class)Meets NFPA 1006 & 1670 Standards for Operational Rope Rescue32 Hrs. 8AM-5PMCost: TARS \$490, TARS Associate \$525.00, Non TARS \$595Dates: October 17-20

All Gear for Rope Classes provided such as helmets, harnesses, manuals etc. All classes held at the Mountain Rope Safety Courses Training site in Signal Mountain, TN, will have free lodging, but food and travel is the student's responsibility. <u>Students should be physically able to perform strenuous activity each day.</u>

Visit www.RopeTrainingClasses.com or contact Pat Wagner (PWagner410@ epbfi.com) for more information.

State Treasurer Ross Musgrave

As we begin this New Year, I wonder how many of you have made New Year's resolutions. Are you still keeping them? I for one have never been much on making such resolutions as I know what's going to happen. Maybe you vowed to lose weight or to just take better care of yourself. It's a well-known fact that for about six weeks or so after the New Year, attendance at your local gym or fitness facility is at capacity. The regulars know that by about the middle of February things will be pretty well back to normal.

This year, I may just have to rethink my past practices. Maybe there really is something to this resolution thing......If you stick to it.

There's one that has been rolling around in my head these last few weeks. Just what kind of person are you? Just what kind of squad member are you? Do you come to each and every meeting? Do you volunteer your time to take your turn on the truck or to do a standby in our squad's case? Do you take the time to attend training sessions, both within your local squad and outside sources? Or are you just content to "roll along?" Are you miserable in your very existence?

Are you somebody that everyone in your squad likes to work with, or an old sourpuss that the Captain has to beg others to work with? Maybe this year we should all decide to dedicate ourselves to be a better person, a better squadsman, a better husband or wife, etc.

Let's all take just a few minutes to think about how we can be better in 2013. Let's strive to be a "winner" this year and in years to come and not just an "also ran."

I hope each of you had a Merry Christmas and that you will have a Happy New Year!

Ross Musgrave

IRONICALLY CHANGING UCTIVE THAN LEAK. Investment Guru Should you find yourself in a chronically LEAKING BOAT, ENERGY DEVOTED TO CHANGING VESSELS IS LIKELY TO BE MORE PRODUCTIVE THAN ENERGY DEVOTED TO PATCHING THE LEAK. Investment Guru Warren Buffet

2013 Meetings Captain / Unit Directors

March 23 @ 5:00 PM CST July 20 @ 5:00 PM CST

DoubleTree Hotel, Murfreesboro DoubleTree Hotel, Murfreesboro (Reservations 615-895-555)

Region Meetings Region I Region II Region III Region IV **February** Bean Station Loudon County Tennessee City Humboldt Area June Hawkins County Monroe County Jackson County Decatur County

Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!

Dr. Seuss

Jefferson County Rescue Squad 50th Anniversary Open House May 25, 2013

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Everyone is invited to come and help us celebrate our 50th anniversary. There will be a short program, food, fun, and other activities. Please come out to our building at 915 Industrial Park Drive in Dandridge. We look forward to seeing you there!

2013 Convention & EMS Symposium Music Road Hotel & Convention Center Pigeon Forge, TN

Symposium	October 2-3, 2013
Convention	October 4-5, 2013
Reservations	1-800-429-7700 (Request TN ASSO-
CIATION OF RESCUE	SQUADS room block)

For Online Reservations go to: https://secure.musicroadhotel.com/V1WebControls/Group-Comments.aspx. Group Access Codes: Group ID: 3658 Password: 37000303

A FEW THINGS TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EASIER.

IF YOU ARE MAKING RESERVATIONS FOR A BLOCK OF ROOMS FOR YOUR SQUAD, AND YOU WILL BE PAYING ON ONE MASTER PAYMENT FOR ALL THE ROOMS, you must contact Heather Sims at the Group Sales Department at 1-866-429-7744 TO MAKE ARRANGE-MENTS. This is required in order for us to properly route the charges and take care of you if you are tax exempt. We will be able to give you personal service and take care of your needs better by calling Heather. She is available Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. You may also email her your request at : hsims@musicroadhotel.com. Please give her the number of rooms you require and arrival and departure dates for rooms. In addition, if you are attempting to reserve multiple rooms under YOUR name, which you will at some point assign to other people, you should contact the sales department to make these arrangements. This will streamline your check-in when you arrive. 1-866-429-7744 -Heather Sims.

TAX EXEMPT: If your are seeking to be tax exempt for your stay, you must provide a Tennessee Department of Revenue Tax Exempt form (Cont on Next Page) AND pay with a Squad check or Squad Credit Card matching that form. <u>PERSONAL FUNDS, CREDIT CARDS OR CASH cannot be used to pay</u> <u>for tax exempt items.</u> Once you make your reservations, please fax your tax exempt form WITH EACH RESERVATION CONFRIMATION written on the form to: Heather Sims 865-286-2236.

EARLY ARRIVALS OR STAY-OVERS:

For Individual reservations wishing to arrive early during the week, or stay over past Saturday night, it is recommended that you contact the reservations department direct at 1-800-429-7700 and speak to a reservation agent to make your arrangements. All room types may not have been blocked for the dates you wish to stay, and the rate may be different.

"Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."

Benjamin Franklin

TARS Receives Grant for Underwater Sonar Equipment

We are proud to announce that this past year with the help of a grant from the State we were able to purchase a Didson undersater sonar unit, a vehicle and related equipment. This high tech underwater sonar is capable of providing near video-quality, in real time data at a rate of 15 frames per second even in dark turbid waters. This equipment will be housed at the Coffee County Rescue Squad and will be available to any unit member of TARS as soon as everything is up and running. We are in the process of developing some awareness level and operational level classes that will be coming out later this year. We are still in the training and learning process, we will keep updates posted on our website and in future mailouts.

GeoConex® Corporation

GeoConex[®] has developed a comprehensive "Next Generation 911" Ready CAD system (computer-aided dispatch) that is second to none. We are in the process of bringing all of our software products into the "Next Generation 911" world. By doing this we can offer a complete set of software solutions that can be used in your dispatch center, your community, or across your state. Are you ready for the next leap of technology in the public safety industry? GeoConex[®] is and we would like an opportunity to help you get there. Please review the list of software products and services that we currently offer and contact us if we can be of service to your agency. **Public Safety**

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