



BALTIMORE COUNTY
FEDERATION OF
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
AFT / AFL - CIO / BCFPE Local #4883

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RE: FAVORABLE-SB633: 911 Center Specialists reclassified as First Responders.

Honorable Members of the HGO Committee,

First, I want to thank Senator Kagan, Senator Reilly, Delegate Hill and all members of the Next Generation 9-1-1 Commission for their diligent work on NG911.

My name is John Ripley and I am the President of The Baltimore County Federation of Public Employees who represents approximately 1500 Baltimore County Employees including 250 active Baltimore County 911 Center Employees. Over the years I have witnessed these hard-working men and women perform these highly technical and ever-changing public safety jobs but their classifications have not keep up, to properly reflect what they actually do today. Emergency after emergency, our 911 Center Specialist live each and every crisis they handle. They calmly walk callers through life saving techniques to control bleeding, dislodge choking obstructions, perform CPR and other unimaginable emergencies. Emergency after emergency, 911 Center Specialist are the "TRUE" First Responders and this bill would correctly reclassify them as First Responders.

Because of this, I urge you to support **SB633**.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

President John Ripley

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