

**REPORT OF HAMPTON ROADS  
PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**Hampton Roads Automatic  
Aid Between Emergency  
Services Part II  
HJR 155 (2008)**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



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December 17, 2009

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Attention: Legislative Documents and Reports Processing

RE: House Joint Resolution 155

Enclosed is a report in fulfillment of House Joint Resolution 155. The following information is provided as indicated by the submission requirements.

*Title:* Hampton Roads Automatic Aid Between Emergency Services Part II

*Mandate:* House Joint Resolution 155

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Sincerely,

Dwight Farmer  
Executive Director/Secretary

NE/fh

Enclosure



**HAMPTON ROADS AUTOMATIC AID BETWEEN EMERGENCY SERVICES  
PART II**

**A FINAL REPORT TO THE HONORABLE TIMOTHY M. Kaine, GOVERNOR AND  
VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**Prepared in response to 2008 House Joint Resolution 155 by the staff of the  
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission**

**December 17, 2009**



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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is being provided to the General Assembly pursuant to House Joint Resolution (HJR) 155. HJR 155 directed the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission to “review the emergency responses of localities of the Hampton Roads region, including responses across jurisdictional lines” over a two year period and to produce two reports. The first report was submitted to the General Assembly in December 2008. This report will satisfy the two part study requirement.

Both reports were developed following a series of interviews with representatives from fire, law enforcement, EMS, and 911 dispatch agencies within the Hampton Roads region that focused on the usage and implementation of automatic and mutual aid operations. This report is organized in such a way that it incorporates the first report with the second report in order to provide the appropriate background information. However, the section titled ‘Review of Additional Mutual and Automatic Interdependencies’ is an expansion of the previous report.

The interviews and follow-up meetings determined that Hampton Roads fire departments actively use both automatic and mutual aid and with the exception of the City of Virginia Beach are also responsible for EMS response. Law enforcement agencies do not use automatic aid except in cases of pursuit across jurisdictional lines; however, resources are shared through mutual aid. Local 911 dispatch centers do not direct the use of mutual or automatic aid; rather, the decision is left to the first responder agencies and the dispatch centers facilitate the process the best way possible.

The conclusion of the report supports the previous report that no legislative action is required to facilitate automatic or mutual aid among fire, emergency medical services (EMS), 911 dispatch agencies, or law enforcement. Subsequently, law enforcement agencies are continuing to review alternative mutual aid formats that would offer all the legal protection and guarantees of service while minimizing the cumbersome nature of the mutual aid agreement.



## **I. FIRE**

Fire departments throughout the Hampton Road region openly provide resources to geographically neighboring as well as non-adjointing jurisdictions during incidents that overwhelm the responding fire department. Assistance is provided primarily through mutual aid, with some support provided by automatic aid. The difference between automatic and mutual aid as defined by the fire departments within the region, is the means through which the resources are deployed. Mutual aid deployments are enacted upon receiving a request for additional resources from the responding jurisdiction. Conversely, automatic aid deploys several jurisdictions' resources through the 911 dispatcher at the jurisdiction where the incident is occurring. The specifics of both automatic and mutual aid are discussed further along with other factors contributing to the continual improvement of fire operations throughout the region.

### **REPORT PART I**

#### **A. Mutual Aid**

As previously stated, mutual aid is the most used means of providing additional resources between fire departments. The use of mutual aid between fire departments is a long standing practice within the region. For instance, the city of Norfolk has had a mutual aid agreement with the Little Creek Naval Base since 1990 while York County, James City County, and the city of Williamsburg have maintained mutual aid agreements for approximately 30 years.

Previously the practice for establishing mutual aid agreements occurred between individual jurisdictions. This practice was deemed cumbersome as any single jurisdiction could hold several mutual aid agreements. As a result, the fire chiefs throughout the region are working toward establishing a regional mutual aid agreement. The agreement once established will network all resources together, much as they are now, however through a single unified mutual agreement thereby eliminating the need for each jurisdiction to establish its own mutual aid agreement. The Virginia Beach Fire Department has been taking the lead on facilitating the development of the regional mutual aid agreement.

In addition to local jurisdictional resources, the Navy Region Mid-Atlantic is a partner in fire mutual aid agreements. Similar to the local jurisdictions the Navy has previously established separate mutual aid agreements for each of its bases. However, the Navy is now using a regional mutual aid agreement that links all of its facilities together. Further, the Navy is establishing mutual aid agreements with local jurisdictions even if a naval base is not located within its jurisdictional boundaries. The new approach will make resources from every naval base available to all jurisdictions with which the Navy holds a mutual aid agreement. Previous agreements limited the exchange of resources to the specific Naval base and locality between whom the agreement had been signed.

The framework of existing mutual aid agreements maintains that requests for additional resources will be made by the City Manager, Fire Chief, Senior Officer on duty, or his/her designee. Within the requested jurisdiction, the decision to render assistance will be made by the City Manager, Fire Chief, Senior Officer on duty, or his/her designee upon receiving the mutual aid request. The response to the mutual aid request will be based on resource availability within the requested jurisdiction. Requests under the agreement can be for both personnel and

equipment trained or designed to meet the needs of the situation. Liability against the requesting jurisdiction is waived and all benefits entitled to the requested jurisdiction's personnel continue while responding in the requesting jurisdiction's boundaries. Finally, with a written 60 day notice the parties within the mutual aid agreement may terminate involvement.

## B. Automatic Aid

While mutual aid is the dominant means through which resources are shared it also serves as the foundation for developing automatic aid agreements. The two areas within the region where automatic aid is the primary response mechanism occurs between York County, James City County, and the city of Williamsburg and between the Virginia Port Authority (VPA) and the jurisdictions that are home to VPA facilities.

York County, James City County and the City of Williamsburg can be considered the regional leaders in mutual and automatic aid operations. This designation is based upon their resource matrix dispatch method that identifies the nearest resource to an incident. The matrix is a static document based on the geographic location of resources and pre-identified incident subdivisions. Figure one provides an example of the resource matrix used by the 911 dispatcher.

<b>Location:</b> (subdivision where the incident occurred)
<i>Engine truck:</i> Unit 1 from York County, Unit 5 from James City County, etc.
<i>Ladder truck:</i> Unit 7 from Williamsburg, Unit 4 from Williamsburg, etc.
<i>Medic:</i> Unit 2 from James City County, Unit 4 from Williamsburg, etc.

Figure One: Automatic Aid Matrix

The matrix identifies all fire resources followed by the order in which resources should be requested. To deploy a resource the 911 dispatcher consults the matrix and then deploys the first available resource within the string of identified resources. If the resource is within the jurisdiction then the deployment is based upon the information within the computer aided dispatch (CAD) system; however, if the resources are outside the jurisdiction the 911 dispatcher contacts the jurisdiction with the desired resources to determine if the resource is available. If available the resource would be deployed by the 911 dispatch center within its jurisdiction. If the resource is unavailable then the 911 dispatcher within the jurisdiction with the incident would continue across the resource matrix until an available resource was found and deployed.

The second area of automatic response between York County, James City County and the City of Williamsburg are interstate accidents. This method is preferred as information provided to 911 dispatchers regarding interstate accidents is not always detailed or accurate. By eliminating jurisdictional boundaries the accident victim has the largest chance for survival.

Next, the Virginia Port Authority does not maintain its own fire department; therefore, during a fire incident fire services would automatically be deployed from a neighboring jurisdiction. Currently, the City of Norfolk is the primary jurisdiction set to respond to a fire

incident at the Norfolk International Terminal; whereas the Portsmouth fire department is the primary responder to an incident at the Portsmouth Marine Terminal and the Newport News fire department is the primary responder at the Newport News Marine Terminal. If the incident at the port developed beyond the primary responding jurisdiction's ability then the mutual aid resources previously discussed would be deployed to provide assistance.

### **C. Hampton Roads Fire Chief's Association**

Automatic and mutual aid agreements are the product of cooperative fire operations throughout the region primarily through the Fire Chiefs Association. The Fire Chiefs Association is comprised of regional jurisdictions' fire chiefs. The association meets monthly to discuss the issues impacting the region and foster the continual improvement of fire operations. In addition, the association has six working groups that address topics such as operations and communications. The membership of the working groups is expanded to include operational leaders and the necessary individuals to accomplish the task at hand. Current tasks of the association, in no particular order, include standardized resource typing, unifying standard operating procedures, interoperability, regionally interlinked CAD system, and automatic vehicle locators in all response vehicles. Funding is the primary factor limiting the advancement of each task.

Finally, regional fire leaders look to the Phoenix, Arizona metro area and Northern Virginia region as models for automatic aid operation development. Briefly stated, the Phoenix metro area links twenty fire departments using a satellite enhanced CAD system and Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) to deploy the nearest resource to the incident regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.<sup>1</sup> Emergency calls received in the Phoenix area are first routed through the local law enforcement agency and if the caller is in need of fire or EMS services the call is transferred to the regional dispatch center for resource deployment.<sup>2</sup> Similarly, the North Virginia region joins the resources for two cities, three counties, Army Base Fort Belvoir, and the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority.<sup>3</sup> Under the mutual response agreement the participating jurisdiction's resources will be automatically deployed without regard for jurisdictional boundaries to meet the needs of the incident.<sup>3</sup> The request for additional resources from other jurisdictions will be made through the telephone, radio, or computer network.<sup>3</sup>

### **D. Conclusion and Recommendations**

Resources are freely exchanged between jurisdictions throughout the region under pre-established mutual and automatic aid agreement while professional networks facilitate the continual improvement of fire operations. Consequently, no legislative action is required to facilitate automatic or mutual aid response among fire departments within the Hampton Roads region.

## **REPORT PART II**

Fire departments throughout Hampton Roads have maintained strong working relationships. Likewise, the mutual aid agreements discussed in the previous report have remained in effect and been updated as necessary. The Hampton Roads Fire Chief's Association (HRFCA) has continued to meet on a regular basis. During these meetings they have prioritized several regional projects and assigned them to functional working groups for implementation. Project

examples include station back fill procedures, processes for coordinated communication, and resource typing.

Additional efforts among Hampton Roads fire departments since the last report include leading the development of regional Incident Management Teams with FY 09 Urban Areas Security grant funding. Operationally when possible, fire departments have moved to similar shift schedules. Training and exercises have continued to be conducted in both interagency and multi-jurisdictional formats with participation from both Hampton Roads as well as northeastern North Carolina. Subsequently, this interaction with northeastern North Carolina is also part of a continued partnership with northeastern North Carolina that includes developments in communication and mutual/automatic aid agreements. The fire departments have also continued to participate in the regional effort to improve radio communication interoperability.

### **CONCLUSION**

Due to the high level of collaboration and current willingness to share resources through mutual aid, no legislative action is necessary to require the use of automatic or mutual aid response among fire departments within the Hampton Roads region.

## **II. EMS**

The majority of EMS providers are under the direction of the local fire departments within the Hampton Roads region. The exceptions are the rural counties and the City of Virginia Beach EMS. Therefore, mutual and automatic aid agreements entered into by the fire departments, as previously discussed, are also applied to many of the EMS agencies. The unique components of automatic and mutual aid as they relate to EMS are discussed below in addition to the professional organizations facilitating the continual improvement of EMS service.

### **REPORT PART I**

#### **A. Automatic Aid**

Currently, automatic aid is not the primary means through which additional resources are requested and deployed. The exception, previously discussed under fire, includes the operations between York County, James City County, and the city of Williamsburg, and the Virginia Port Authority.

#### **B. Mutual Aid**

Rather than automatic aid, EMS providers generously provide resources when requested under mutual aid agreements. The agreements are enacted when the requesting jurisdiction contacts the requested jurisdiction for additional resources. In addition to existing mutual aid agreements, EMS providers are required by 32.1-12 and 32.1-111.4 of the Code of Virginia to provide mutual aid within their localities and with all jurisdictions immediately bordering their jurisdiction.<sup>4</sup>

#### **C. TEMS and PEMS**

Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Council (TEMS) and the Peninsula Emergency Medical Services Council (PEMS) are two professional organizations whose purpose is to bring EMS leaders together to address issues impacting the region, standardize EMS protocols, and facilitate the continual improvement of EMS service delivery. TEMS and PEMS have no authority over EMS providers to establish rules or regulation; rather, they work with EMS providers to improve service and establish common protocols. The two organizations could serve as a forum to discuss and plan future changes or improvements to mutual aid or automatic aid. TEMS and PEMS already share a joint mass casualty planning workgroup which meets monthly.

The jurisdictional boundaries of TEMS and PEMS extend beyond the Hampton Roads region boundaries; however the two jurisdictions currently meet the needs of the EMS providers. Recently, the consolidation of TEMS and PEMS into a single council was discussed and evaluated. The recommendation following the evaluation was for the two organizations to remain separate entities while continuing to collaborate together. The recommendation was based on the findings that patient care and EMS providers would be better served under a two organization system.<sup>5</sup>

#### **D. Conclusion and Recommendations**

Mutual aid agreements are the primary means of requesting additional EMS resources. Under these agreements resources are freely exchanged when requested and follow the Code of Virginia regarding mutual assistance among EMS providers. Professional organizations further facilitate EMS processes focused on collaboration and improved service among the region's EMS providers. Consequently, no legislative action is required to facilitate automatic or mutual aid response among EMS providers within the Hampton Roads region.

#### **REPORT PART II**

The EMS function continues to remain under the fire department, with a few exceptions regarding private EMS service providers. Therefore, mutual and automatic aid agreements entered into by the fire departments are also applied to EMS. Through the fire department the EMS response function has continued to improve with enhanced partnerships with northeastern North Carolina EMS agencies. Mutual aid agreements that include EMS have continued to remain in effect and have been updated as necessary. Lastly, the Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Council (TEMS) and the Peninsula Emergency Medical Services Council (PEMS) continue to bring EMS leaders together to address issues impacting the region, standardize EMS protocols, and facilitate the continual improvement of EMS services.

#### **CONCLUSION**

No legislative action is required to facilitate automatic or mutual aid response among EMS providers with the Hampton Roads region.



### **III. LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Law enforcement, for the purposes of this report, is used to describe city police departments, city sheriff departments, county police departments, county sheriff departments, and the Virginia Port Authority police. Within the region these law enforcement agencies are willing to offer support through mutual aid agreements upon the request of another jurisdiction. Mutual aid is preferred over automatic aid due to the unique nature of law enforcement. The specifics of both automatic and mutual aid are discussed further along with other factors contributing to the continual improvement of law enforcement operations throughout the region.

#### **REPORT PART I**

##### **A. Automatic Aid**

Automatic aid, defined as the immediate deployment of resources to another jurisdiction, is not a standard operating procedure used by Hampton Roads law enforcement. While officers are allowed to pursue individuals beyond their jurisdictional boundaries there are specific limitations as to the functions they are allowed to perform while operating within another jurisdiction's boundaries. Unlike other first responders, the role of law enforcement as the name implies is to enforce the laws. As a result, automatic aid is not always in the best interest of the parties involved.

##### **B. Mutual Aid**

For the reasons previously stated, mutual aid is the preferred method of offering assistance between law enforcement agencies. As a result a regional mutual aid agreement has been developed. Signed into effect July 1, 2003 the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement facilitates the distribution of resources throughout the region when local resources are unable to meet demand.

The agreement maintains that all jurisdictions involved will provide law enforcement support, if available, when requested. Requests will be made by the Chief of Police, Sheriff, or designee of the requesting jurisdiction. Acceptance of the request will be made by the Chief of Police, Sheriff, or designee of the requested jurisdiction. Upon acceptance the requesting jurisdiction agrees to provide the requested jurisdiction radios upon arrival to ensure communication of all parties. All personnel sent will be under the direction of the requesting jurisdiction's Chief of Police, Sheriff, or designee. Any activities undertaken by law enforcement personnel dispatched by the requested jurisdiction while assisting the requesting jurisdiction will be protected from liability as dictated by their individual jurisdiction and will be provided with the same powers and immunities in each other's jurisdiction including the authority to make an arrest. The agreement is updated as needed and jurisdictions may withdraw from the agreement following a thirty day written notice period.

A law enforcement specific example of productive mutual operations was the National Socialist Movement on June 25, 2005 in York County. The event received assistance from twelve jurisdictions within the region. Table one demonstrates which jurisdictions participated and the total number of officers supplied.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Personnel</b>
United States Park Police	110
Virginia Beach Police	32
Chesapeake Police Department	27
Portsmouth Police Department	15
Virginia State Police	148
Norfolk Police Department	18
Newport News Police Department	22-25
Hampton	12
York Poquoson Sheriff Office	69
James City Police Department	16
Williamsburg Police Department	12
Gloucester Sheriff Office	10
Poquoson Police Department	2
Isle of Wight Sheriff Office	5

Table One: National Socialist Movement Mutual Aid

### **C. Virginia Port Authority Police**

Currently, the Virginia Port Authority police are working with its neighboring jurisdictions to develop individualized mutual aid agreements that will grant the Port Authority police the legal authority to pursue an individual leaving the port. The agreements once completed will provide Port Authority officers access to very specific roadways within its neighboring jurisdictions. Localities have been supportive of the Virginia Port Authority police requests for access into their jurisdictions.

### **D. Hampton Roads Chief of Police Association**

Contributing to improved police operations and mutual aid, the Hampton Roads Chief of Police Association, with membership from all law enforcement entities within the region, meets monthly to discuss issues affecting the region and jurisdictions. The association includes city police chiefs, county sheriffs, and the Virginia Port Authority Chief of Police. The meetings provide an opportunity for networking, touring other police facilities, understanding other jurisdiction's operations, and improving regional operations.

### **E. Conclusion and Recommendations**

When requested, law enforcement resources will be shared among jurisdictions under the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement. The Hampton Roads Chief of Police Association fosters the continual improvement of police operations and mutual aid response. Therefore, given the already established procedures for resource sharing no legislative action is required to require the use of automatic or mutual aid response among law enforcement departments within the Hampton Roads region. Subsequently, during 2009 at the request of the Hampton Roads Chief of Police Association with support from the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission staff will be working to develop legislation for the 2010 session of the Virginia General Assembly that will eliminate the need for regional mutual aid agreements while offering the same legal protections and guarantees of service.

## **REPORT PART II**

Within Hampton Roads law enforcement agencies continue to have strong working relationships. Likewise, mutual aid continues to be preferred over automatic aid; however, resources are shared between agencies when requested through the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement that remains in effect. The Chiefs of Police have continued their regular monthly meetings to address pertinent operational and planning issues. The Chiefs have also continued to review alternative mutual aid options including possible legislation that would reduce the burden of mutual aid agreements while still offering the same protections.

## **CONCLUSION**

Due to the high level of collaboration and current willingness to share resources through mutual aid, no legislative action is necessary to require the use of automatic or mutual aid response among law enforcement agencies within the Hampton Roads region.

## **IV. 911 DISPATCH**

The phone number 9-1-1 is the designated direct line for citizens to request emergency assistance.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, when a citizen dials 9-1-1 the call is routed to a 911 dispatch center which provides the conduit for fire, EMS, and law enforcement to render services. The process between when a citizen dials 9-1-1 and the call is received at the 911 dispatch center varies depending on three phone service options to which an individual subscribes.

The first is a wired phone service or more commonly referred to as a landline telephone. When a citizen dials 9-1-1 from a landline telephone they are automatically directed to the 911 dispatch center within the jurisdiction where they reside. The second type is a wireless phone service also known as a cell phone. When a cell phone user dials 9-1-1 their phone call is routed through the nearest cell phone tower. Cell phone towers then direct the call to a designated 911 dispatch center based upon the preprogrammed designation. As a result a cell phone user may be directed to a 911 dispatch center located outside the jurisdiction from which they are calling. The third is an alternate phone service called Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) which uses an internet connection to provide phone services. Following a mandate from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) all interconnected VoIP providers are required as of November 2005 to route 911 calls to the 911 dispatch center; provide the 911 dispatcher with the caller's phone number and location; and inform the customer of the differences between services.<sup>7</sup>

Once the call is received by the 911 dispatch center, regardless of phone service, the individual's location and phone number are verified. Then, based upon the needs of the caller the 911 dispatcher deploys the required services. The decision to deploy resources using automatic or mutual aid agreements is based upon previously established agreements between fire, EMS, and law enforcement departments.

## **REPORT PART I**

### **A. Automatic Aid**

As previously stated, whether automatic aid is implemented is based upon the actions of the first responders. As a function, 911 dispatch centers can be equipped with automatic aid facilitating technology. However, regionally, upgrades would be required and the operational 911 managers are conducting preliminary talks with vendors to determine feasibility and cost. Structural differences between localities regarding the placement of 911 dispatch centers within the local government impact operations as well as locality population size. As a result the 911 dispatch centers will provide the service that best meets the needs of the first responders to facilitate prompt response while working with them to continually improve emergency response operations.

### **B. Mutual Aid**

Similar to automatic aid, 911 dispatch centers have the capacity to coordinate mutual aid response; however, will follow the requests of the first responders. The two primary ways that mutual aid is coordinated through the 911 dispatch centers occurs during an ongoing incident or when backfilling another jurisdiction's stations. In the first example, first responders would coordinate with their 911 dispatcher to request additional resources. The 911 dispatcher for that

jurisdiction would then contact a 911 dispatch center in another jurisdiction to request additional resources. The second example occurs when a jurisdiction is receiving a high volume of emergency response calls. When this situation occurs the 911 dispatch center may contact another 911 dispatch center to request that some of their resources be moved to the requesting jurisdiction's stations to facilitate short response times for both localities.

### **C. APCO**

The Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials (APCO) is a professional organization whose purpose is to provide leadership, promote professional advancement, and improve the use of technology for the benefit of citizens.<sup>8</sup> Project 36 is a current initiative of APCO focusing on developing standard CAD-to-CAD interchange.<sup>9</sup> Once complete the results should set the foundation for interlinking different CAD platforms together.

### **D. Conclusion and Recommendations**

The 911 dispatch centers within the region are willing to coordinate automatic and mutual aid response of first responders. However, since the 911 center serves as the pass through between citizen requests and emergency response to citizens the decision to implement automatic and mutual aid is left to the discretion of the first responder. Further, solutions for interlinking different CAD systems are currently being studied by the APCO. As a result, no legislative action is required to facilitate automatic or mutual aid response efforts by the 911 dispatch centers within the Hampton Roads Region.

## **REPORT PART II**

The 911 dispatch centers continue to provide assistance based on the preference of the first responder agencies with automatic and mutual aid agreement implementation. The Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials continues to advance 911 dispatch systems. Project 36, previously discussed has become a national best practice. Furthermore, the implementation of this technology lead to the issuance of the Governor's Technology Award to York County.

## **CONCLUSION**

Due to the high level of collaboration and current willingness to share resources through mutual aid, no legislative action is necessary to require the use of automatic or mutual aid response among 911 dispatch centers within the Hampton Roads region.

## **V. REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL MUTUAL & AUTOMATIC AID INTERDEPENDENCIES**

Following comments and additional information received locally after the last report this section was added to further explore how mutual aid among all first responders in the Hampton Roads region is integrated. However, this is only a sampling and not an all-inclusive review of first responders operations within special jurisdictions of the Hampton Roads region. The purpose of this additional review is to demonstrate that automatic and mutual aid interdependences extend beyond locality borders and into special jurisdictions.

### **A. Norfolk International Airport**

The Norfolk International Airport maintains its own police and fire department. These emergency services are self-contained on-site and include an emergency dispatch center.

The Airport Police Department “consists of fully empowered law enforcement officers that undergo the same training as their municipal counterparts and act in cooperation with other local, state and federal agencies.”<sup>10</sup> The Airport Police Department maintains concurrent jurisdiction with the City of Norfolk for areas surrounding the airport including roads leading to the airport.<sup>11</sup>

The Airport Fire Department is specially trained to handle aircraft rescue and fire fighting and includes EMS services. The EMS service provided by the Airport Fire Department does not include transport. If transport is required, the City of Norfolk EMS is contacted to provide the service. Additionally, the Federal Aviation Administration requires airport fire departments to have MOUs and update them annually. As a result of this requirement written MOUs are maintained with the City of Virginia Beach Department of Emergency Medical Services & Fire Department, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, and the City of Norfolk Fire-Rescue Department.

### **B. Old Dominion University**

Old Dominion University (ODU) maintains its own police department with state-certified law enforcement officers. The jurisdictional boundary of the ODU Police Department includes the university as well as some concurrent jurisdiction with the City of Norfolk Police Department. Additionally, the ODU Police Department and the City of Norfolk Police Department have a signed MOU. As stated in the MOU the two police departments will “provide an increased police presence and enhance response time in the area of concurrent jurisdiction.”<sup>12</sup> The MOU also states that “ODU officers, while performing their normal patrol duties, shall respond to all observed violations of State and City laws within the area of concurrent jurisdiction and shall take appropriate police action.”<sup>12</sup>

Fire and EMS services for ODU are provided by the City of Norfolk. Automatic and mutual aid operations for fire and EMS are managed by the City of Norfolk and governed by its MOUs.

### **C. College of William and Mary**

The College of William and Mary (W&M) maintains a full-time police department with sworn law enforcement officers that have the same authority as state, municipal, or county law

enforcement. The W&M Police Department maintains a signed MOU with the City of Williamsburg. The MOU serves as a “reciprocal agreement for mutual aid for emergency purposes, for maintenance of peace and good order and for cooperating in the furnishing of police services.”<sup>13</sup>

Fire and EMS services for W&M are provided by the City of Williamsburg. Automatic and mutual aid operations for fire and EMS are managed by the City of Williamsburg and governed by its MOUs.

#### **D. Christopher Newport University**

Christopher Newport University (CNU) has its own police department. All officers of the CNU Police Department are sworn and certified by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services.<sup>14</sup> The jurisdictional boundary of the CNU Police Department includes all University-owned, -leased, and -controlled property and the adjacent streets and sidewalks.<sup>14</sup> The CNU police department maintains a mutual-aid agreement with the City of Newport News Police “for mutual aid and for cooperation in the furnishing of police services.”<sup>15</sup>

Fire and EMS services for CNU are provided by the City of Newport News. Automatic and mutual aid operations for fire and EMS are managed by the City of Newport News and governed by its MOUs.

#### **E. Conclusion**

The additional review of special jurisdictions continues to demonstrate the strong working relationship and willingness to share resources among Hampton Roads localities and special jurisdictions. MOUs are maintained and resources are shared when requested. No legislative action is necessary to require special jurisdictions’ law enforcement or fire departments to use automatic or mutual aid.

## **CONCLUSION**

HJR 155 directed the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission to study automatic aid among first responders within the Hampton Roads region. Within the region, since 2001, there have been over 8,000 incidents of mutual aid and over 1,600 automatic aid incidents between fire and EMS departments.<sup>16</sup> Further, a 2005 National Socialist Movement gathering generated assistance from twelve law enforcement agencies within the region. These examples along with the pre-established mutual and automatic aid agreements between first responder agencies within the region lead to the conclusion that no legislative action is required to facilitate automatic or mutual aid among fire, emergency medical services, law enforcement, or 911 dispatch agencies.



## REFERENCES

Representatives from Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, and 911 Dispatch departments within the region were consulted during the development of this report. Text sources citations are provided below.

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