



Sullivan County
Public Safety and Law Enforcement
Committee

100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701

Meeting Agenda - Final

Chairman Luis Alvarez
Vice Chairman Nicholas Salomone Jr.
Committee Member Joseph Perrello
Committee Member Matt McPhillips
Committee Member Brian McPhillips

Thursday, March 6, 2025

10:00 AM

Government Center

Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

American Red Cross Month

Reports:

1. Division of Public Safety [ID-7262](#)

Attachments: [Commissioner's Report for March 2025 report](#)

2. Bureau of Fire [ID-7258](#)

Attachments: [Public Safety Meeting 3-25](#)

3. E-911 & EMS [ID-7249](#)

Attachments: [March2025_Leg Update](#)

4. Probation [ID-7257](#)

Attachments: [PROBATION MONTHLY REPORT February 2025](#)

5. Opioid Task Force

6. Sheriff

7. District Attorney

8. County Coroner

9. NYSP Update

Discussion:

Public Comment

Resolutions:

1. Resolution to Approve the Formal Renaming of the Sullivan County Emergency Services Training Center to the “Richard Martinkovic Public Safety Training Center” in Posthumous Recognition of his Decades of Service [ID-7223](#)
2. To Accept a Cash Donation of \$250.00 for the “Join Sullivan Fire” Recruitment and Retention Task Force [ID-7226](#)
3. TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MULTIMED BILLING SERVICE, INC. TO PROVIDE BILLING SERVICES [ID-7237](#)
4. Urging the State of New York to Enact S.4583-A (Martinez)/A.5942-A (Jean-Pierre) amending the County Law, in relation to the Next Generation 911 System. [ID-7267](#)

Adjourn



Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701

File #: ID-7262

Agenda Date:

Agenda #: 1.

Commissioner's March 2025 report to Public Safety and Law Enforcement Committee

Good morning, and thank you for affording me this time to present an overview of what the Division has been working on the past month. The individual Department heads will discuss granular details, while I will touch on only some of the highlights:

Old Business:

- The Sheriff and I remain immensely grateful for this Committee - and the entire Legislature's support - in funding our immediate communications and situational awareness needs. As part of our ongoing modernization initiatives, we identified gaps and you all allowed us to fill them. We have sourced and procured every item on the list and have begun receiving items. We are actively deploying resources to members of the Division who will use them to enhance operational capacity of our emergency response partners.
- Rabies Control
 - Between 1/25 – 2/24 the RCO has responded to 17 exposures across 9 townships. Dog – 11; Cat – 6
 - In one case the exposure was reported as a “coyote bite”. RCO Gerow conducted an investigation and determined that a coyote was in fact not involved, but instead a domestic dog was – who the owner was trying to protect from seizure. Through her dogged work (pun intended) she saved the County more than \$10,000 by being able to quarantine the offending animal and not have to vaccinate the owner/victim. This is only one example of the value of an expert rabies control officer and its impact on public safety.
- Committee Chairman Alvarez, ITS, DPW, the Sheriff's Office, the County Manager's Office, and I met again to continue our conversation about improving safety and security at the Government Center. We met with a vendor to see a demonstration of a weapons detection solution. We will be putting forward a Resolution for April to initiate Phase I of the improvement plan.
- We welcomed the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Office of Counterterrorism - Domestic Terrorism Prevention Unit, who met with core STAC team members to review and improve our Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan. Their insight and guidance was invaluable.
- To clarify a conversation from last month regarding the Volunteer partial tax exemption, I was speaking to the impact from existing jurisdictions within the County that have passed the exemption. To be clear, if all of the varying jurisdictions passed the exemption, then a resident who is a volunteer could see a reduction in their taxes far exceeding that of the \$200 State Tax Refund; however, that would require The County, Town, Fire, and school to do so. As it stands now, where the Town and Fire District only have passed the exemption, in many cases the savings is not much different than the State tax refund. I would encourage the Legislature to ask Chris Knapp for additional information if they are so inclined, as he is a wealth of knowledge on this and can give a realistic view on what such an exemption would look like if the County were to participate.

- I am very excited to announce that we have appointed a Deputy Fire Coordinator for Special Operations. This individual brings an immense wealth of experience and knowledge in the field and is ready to hit the ground running on their first day.

New Business:

- Deputy Commissioner Rau worked tirelessly with our partners in Grants Administration to develop and submit an application to New York State Department of Health for a substantial grant which will be used to further enhance our prehospital care system. I am so very proud of their hard work to get this across the finish line and to announce that they were awarded the full requested amount of half a million dollars. The County will see substantial returns as a result.
- Confidential Secretary O'Brien worked with Jill Holland from Kauneonga Lake Fire Department to develop and submit a grant application (in a very, very short window) to the New York State Office of Mental Health Suicide Prevention Center. They too received notification that they have been awarded their grant, which will be used to further expand the services of the newly created Public Safety Health & Wellness Coordinator, a position that we anticipate filling this week.
- I was fortunate enough to attend the New York State Emergency Manager's Association training conference in Syracuse, where the 62 County Emergency Managers received their mandatory annual Tier II training.
- I was lucky enough to have had the opportunity to attend a training with the U.S. Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency Office of Bomb Prevention on hostile surveillance. This course teaches us how to identify potential actors of mass violence and I intend to bring their three-day course to the County this fall.
- I spoke with Woodbourne Correctional Prison Superintendent David Howard after a series of emergency medical incidents at the facility - involving exposures to unknown substances – which caused injury staff. The New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision Office of Special investigations is conducting an investigation to determine the cause. I also spoke with Dr. Whalen, the Director of the New York State Office of Public Health who has assured me that they have found no indication that whatever the substance is poses any risk of secondary exposure to our first responders or hospital staff. I have an additional call into Deputy Commissioner Darren Miller of NYS DOCCS, for additional information.



Sullivan County
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File #: ID-7258

Agenda Date: 3/6/2025

Agenda #: 2.

Public Safety Meeting March 6, 2025

1. Still Busy Month, Structure Fire's, MVA's and weather-related storms, I want to thank all EMS, Fire, Police, Dispatchers, DPW, Highway Departments and State DOT for their quick responses.
2. Bureau of Fire is working with the Bureau of EMS, Sheriff's Office, NYS Police on the 2nd Annual Emergency Services Youth Academy to be held at the Training Center July 21-25 for 14 -16-year old students.
3. Continue to work with BOCES on the Fire Science and EMT Career and Tech Program.
4. Training: Continues to go well working on spring and summer courses
5. Burn Ban goes into effect March 16th to May 14th
6. Daylight Savings Time is March 9th Reminder to change your time change your batteries in your smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors if required
7. The Recruitment and Retention Task Force "JOIN SULLIVAN FIRE" will be holding a seminar "Self-Reflection and Accountability at the Resorts World Catskills this Sunday from 8 to 12:30
8. We finished the upgrade to our training center classrooms and what to thank DPW and ITS for their professional service to make the project go smoothly.
9. Thank you and stay warm and Safe



Sullivan County

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File #: ID-7249

Agenda Date: 3/6/2025

Agenda #: 3.

911 Update

- We have been working closely with ITS to upgrade all dispatch work stations in the department which should be completed next week
- With the help of Commissioner Schulte, DPW and ITS we are working on improving security at the airport, particularly gated access the 911 Center and other critical infrastructure.
- Our Department received notice of award from DHSES for the Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant Program and the Public Safety Answering Point grant program totaling \$793,408. Approximately \$500,000 of that is used for support and maintenance contracts of our countywide radio system. Approximately \$150,000 goes toward dispatchers' salaries, and the balance is used to build new sites and other communications improvements.
- I participated in the WSUL Heart-a-thon along with other colleagues to host the 11am public safety hour. It was an awesome event for a great cause.
- Environmental review continues for the Jeffersonville tower and progress is underway.
- As always I commend my staff on the amazing work they do each and every day, being our true first first-responders.

EMS Update

- The reorganization of the EMS Council continues. They are meeting monthly and working to support EMS initiatives,
- We are seeing an increased need for EMS mutual aid in the center of the county in the areas covered by Empress EMS. In the month of January 14% or 104 of those calls required a volunteer squad from another area to be dispatched to handle those calls. That is up from 12% cumulatively from 2024. It is becoming more difficult for those mutual aid departments to sustain that type of assistance and still cover their own districts. I've met with leadership from Empress EMS to discuss the concern and I will continue to drive the need for improvement. While the County Fly cars are no doubt reducing the time to get a provider bedside and providing much needed care, the times to get a transporting ambulance assigned to the call are increasing with mutual aid fatigue,
- I'm happy to report that we have been awarded a first ever \$500,000 grant from NYS DOH. This award will go toward bolstering EMS Education, Recruitment & Retention initiatives, aiming to standardize the level of care across EMS agencies, and adding additional EMS resources during our peak summer season.



Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

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File #: ID-7257

Agenda Date: 3/6/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Public Safety Committee
Probation Department Monthly Report
February 2025

Probation Supervision

Sex Offender unit has 27 active cases

Domestic Violence unit has 25 cases

60 CD IID cases

81 general supervision cases

16 DWI/Drug Court cases

71 DWI cases

15 Transfer Out Active cases

17 warrant cases

1 Youth Part cases

**621 open cases (including Pretrial, PSI, Family Court, Criminal Court, Restitution only)

Alternatives to Incarceration Program (Pre-Trial Release/ Community Service)

89 active PTR cases

29 active Community Service cases

Pre-Sentence/ Pre-Plea/ Pre- Dispositional Investigations

PSIs: 12

Grand Larceny 4th: 1

Att. Strangulation 2nd: 1

Agg Vehicular Assault: 1

Agg Harassment 2nd : 1 (courtesy for Ulster Co)

Burglary 3rd: 3

Criminal Contempt 1st: 1

Att. Murder: 1

Poss. Dangerous Contraband In Prison: 1

CPW 3rd & Tamp W Physical Evidence: 1

Robbery 3rd: 1

Intake

JD Intake: 1 (Possession of Obscene Sex. Performance by a Child)

Orders of Protection: 11

Financials

180 restitution cases

83 payments collected in February 2025

Total deposit amount for January \$10,122.83

Community Events/ Relations/ Training

* Our department was notified that all of the OASAS-Licensed Outpatient Clinics within the Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster system are in process of closing.

Clinicians will be working with other area agencies within the coming weeks to solidify appropriate discharge plans so there is no lapse in care or lapse in medications if they are receiving psychiatric medicines and/or MAT (Medication – Assisted Treatment).

Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan and Ulster will still be operating social support services such as Case Management, Food Pantries, Immigration Services, and Outreach and Engagement Services (Lisa's Community-Based Treatment Services). Those services are not closing.

* On 2/11/25 and 2/26/25, after hour home contacts were completed. In total, Officers attempted to see 60 offenders, or at least make a collateral contact. In all, 29 probationers were home and seen with positive contact.

* On 2/25/25, the Deputy Director and Director attended the COPA (Counsel of Probation Administrators) monthly meeting held in the Shaker Room at the Crowne Plaza-Desmond Hotel located at 660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, during the NYSAC Winter/Centennial Legislative Conference.

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7223

Agenda Date: 3/6/2025

Agenda #: 1.

Narrative of Resolution:

Resolution to Approve the Formal Renaming of the Sullivan County Emergency Services Training Center to the “Richard Martinkovic Public Safety Training Center” in Posthumous Recognition of his Decades of Service

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: N/A

Are funds already budgeted? Choose an item.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures: N/A

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE FORMAL RENAMING OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING CENTER TO THE “RICHARD MARTINKOVIC PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER” IN POSTHUMOUS RECOGNITION OF HIS DECADES OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, Richard Martinkovic dedicated his life to the safety and well-being of the residents of Sullivan County through his distinguished service as a volunteer firefighter, County Fire Coordinator, and County Public Safety Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, his leadership, commitment, and contributions to emergency services and public safety have had a profound and lasting impact on the county, ensuring the safety and preparedness of first responders and the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, Richard Martinkovic was instrumental in the development and advancement of emergency services training in Sullivan County, fostering the growth of the Emergency Services Training Center as a vital resource for fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical personnel; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate to honor his legacy and lifetime of service by renaming the Emergency Services Training Center in his memory; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature recognizes the importance of preserving the contributions of individuals who have dedicated their lives to public service and ensuring their impact is remembered for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature formally approves the renaming of the Emergency Services Training Center to the “Richard Martinkovic Public Safety Training Center”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon approval, appropriate measures shall be taken to update signage, documentation, and official references to reflect the new designation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Sullivan County Commissioner of Public Safety, the Sullivan County Fire Coordinator, and the family of Richard Martinkovic in recognition of his enduring legacy.

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7226

Agenda Date: 3/6/2025

Agenda #: 2.

Narrative of Resolution:

To Accept a Cash Donation of \$250.00 for the “Join Sullivan Fire” Recruitment and Retention Task Force

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: N/A

Are funds already budgeted? No

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures: N/A

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT A CASH DONATION OF \$250.00 FOR THE “JOIN SULLIVAN FIRE” RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Any Make Any Model Car Club has presented an unsolicited cash donation to the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire’s Recruitment and Retention Task Force, “Join Sullivan Fire”; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire would like to accept this donation to further support recruitment and retention efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire greatly appreciates the generosity of the Any Make Any Model Car Club.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby authorizes and accepts the cash donation in the amount of \$250.00 on behalf of the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature appreciates the generous gift from the Any Make Any Model Car Club, and formally thanks them for their generous donation to the “Join Sullivan Fire” Recruitment and Retention Task Force for the benefit of supporting recruitment and retention efforts throughout Sullivan County.



Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701

File #: ID-7237

Agenda Date: 3/6/2025

Agenda #: 3.

Narrative of Resolution:

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MULTIMED BILLING SERVICE, INC. TO PROVIDE BILLING SERVICES

TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MULTIMED BILLING SERVICE, INC. TO PROVIDE BILLING SERVICES

WHEREAS, The Sullivan County Legislature has made a significant investment in supplementing the EMS system within Sullivan County through the current fly-car system; and

WHEREAS, This system of fly-cars has proven to reduce response times and expedite patient care; and

WHEREAS, The County has the opportunity to recover a portion of their investment through billing of patient insurances and other means; and

WHEREAS, The vast majority of EMS services that County EMS interfaces with already utilize Multimed Billing Service, Inc; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to contract with Multimed Billing Service, Inc. as an expert in the EMS billing industry

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Multimed Billing Service, Inc located at 21 Oswego St, PO Box 535, Baldwinsville, NY 13027 based on the fee schedule contained in their proposal dated February 10, 2025 ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Manager is authorized to execute any documents necessary in the provision of billing services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the form of such agreement must be approved by the County Attorney's Office.

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: 10% of what is collected for non-Medicaid and a flat rate of \$10 or \$20 for Medicaid.

Are funds already budgeted? No

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7267

Agenda Date: 3/6/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Narrative of Resolution:

Urging the State of New York to Enact S.4583-A (Martinez)/A.5942-A (Jean-Pierre) amending the County Law, in relation to the Next Generation 911 System.

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: 0

Are funds already budgeted? Choose an item.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

N/A

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
URGING THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO ENACT S.4583-A (MARTINEZ) / A.5942-A (JEAN-PIERRE) AMENDING THE COUNTY LAW, IN RELATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION 911 SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, Next Generation 911 (commonly referred to as NG911) is a digital, internet protocol (IP)-based system that will replace the analog 911 infrastructure that's been in place for decades. It is expected that the FCC will soon mandate 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), to support NG911; and

WHEREAS, NG911 involves the latest 911 technology, including upgrades for pinpointing the exact location of cell phone callers, translating text messages at a 911 PSAP, and ensuring counties have back up resources with other similar counties. NG 911 also requires an ESInet; and

WHEREAS, while the technology to implement these new IP-based 911 systems is available, the transition to NG911 involves much more than just new computer hardware and software; and

WHEREAS, implementing NG911 in states and counties nationwide will require the coordination of resources and support of a variety of emergency communication, public safety, legislative and governing entities; and

WHEREAS, according to the Federal Government back in 2018- the cost to deploy NG911 across the nation is estimated to be \$9.5 billion to \$12.7 billion. The full 10-year complete lifecycle cost estimate to deploy and operate NG911 nationwide is between \$13.5 billion and \$16.1 billion; and

WHEREAS, the estimated price tag in New York State for NG 911 is expected to be upwards of \$2 billion over the next 10 years. County 911 departments do not have the adequate funding to take on the task of building their own ESInet and risk having a patchwork system that does not properly follow the intent of NextGen 911 or provide the necessary safety upgrades to the 911 system and the people of New York; and

WHEREAS, today, 911 centers face a wide range of challenges, ranging from funding, staffing issues, and high call volumes to helping people with special needs and the proliferation of the use of new

communications technologies and an adequate amount of funding is necessary; and

WHEREAS, S.4583A (Martinez) A.5942A (Jean-Pierre) would codify into law the requirements for Next Generation 911 and require the state to build the Next Generation Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESINet) which is a network capable of connecting calls, texts, and other forms of media from the public to 911 PSAPs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby urges the New York State Legislature and Governor Kathy Hochul to enact S.4583-A (Martinez) / A.5942-A (Jean-Pierre) into law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, New York State Senator Peter Oberacker, New York State Assemblymember Paula E. Kay and Assemblyman Brian Maher.