



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, January 16, 2025

10:00 AM

Government Center

Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Comments:

Reports:

1. Division of Public Safety [ID-7068](#)
Attachments: [January 2025 report Pub Safety](#)
2. Bureau of Fire [ID-7077](#)
Attachments: [Public Safety Meeting 1-25](#)
3. E-911 and EMS [ID-7081](#)
Attachments: [January 2025 911 and EMS Reports](#)
4. Probation [ID-7101](#)
Attachments: [PROBATION MONTHLY REPORT December 24](#)
5. Opioid Monthly Report [ID-7107](#)
Attachments: [Monthly Legislative Safety Committee Agenda Presentation-1-2025](#)

6. Coroner's Office

7. NYSP Update

Discussion:

Public Comment

Resolutions:

1. To create (1) new Deputy Fire Coordinator position within the Division of Public Safety; a position assigned to support special operations, focused on complex rescues and emerging technologies in first response..end [ID-7074](#)
2. To Authorize Approval for One-Time and Recurring Funding for UAS and Communications Technology for the Division of Public Safety [ID-7076](#)
3. Approve double time for Correction Officers working overtime at the Sullivan County Jail for the period between February 1, 2025 - July 31, 2025 [ID-7082](#)
4. To create (1) new Deputy Fire Coordinator position within the Division of Public Safety; a position assigned to support special operations, focused on complex rescues and emerging technologies in first response..end [ID-7074](#)

Adjourn



Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
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File #: ID-7068

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 1.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to be here today. I hope you all had a restful Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and New Year. A few Public Safety initiatives from the past month:

Old Business:

- The new Domestic Terrorism Prevention billboard is up, located on Route 17 Eastbound by exit 106 – this billboard encourages individuals to report persons of concern to our Team
- I am extremely happy to announce that we have filled the Rabies Control Officer position with an incredibly qualified and dedicated individual, Joanne Gerow. Joanne hosted a meeting along with Deputy County Manager Huck and me, of Town Supervisors and Municipal Animal and Dog Control Officers to discuss what role the County plays in supporting their endeavors.
- Sheriff Schiff and I are met with the sub-committee of legislators to discuss critical communications needs. We have submitted a Resolution to this Committee looking for one-time funding and recurring funding for these solutions. To that end, I have also submitted a resolution requesting approval for the creation of a per diem position of Deputy Fire Coordinator, who will be tasked specifically with special operations coordination between the Public Safety agencies and local first responders.

New Business:

- I attended the NYS Region II Emergency Management meeting in Dutchess County
- I attended the Regional Threat Assessment and Management meeting in Ulster County
- The Sheriff's Office, 911 Center, and State and local law enforcement have fielded a number of drone sightings, although all were unconfirmed we continue to work with our FBI partners to track and report credible sightings.
- I want to acknowledge the incredible work of all of our Public Safety partners in response to a number of serious incidents over the past month. I find it difficult to put into words an adequate representation of how well everyone is collaborating and partnering, particular cross-disciplinary operations
- Lastly, I want to thank and acknowledge Commissioner Green along with all of the folks in the Division of Information Technology Services, for hosting the Cybersecurity Capabilities Workshop, as well as the Office of Counter Terrorism Cybersecurity Incident Response Team from the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for their tremendous support in making it such a successful day! I think every person who attended left with a renewed sense of the importance of what ITS does to keep us as safe as possible from cyber threats.



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Legislative Memorandum

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File #: ID-7077

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 2.

Public Safety Meeting January 16, 2025

Bureau of Fire

1. I hope you all had a nice holiday, I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year and looking forward to working with you in 2025.
2. December was a very busy, crazy month for us with structure fires, car accidents and some snow storms. I would like to thank, The Emergency Services within Sullivan County for your professionalism and coordination for working together.
3. We had some serious incidents where the Critical Incident Management Team was called in for responder from fire, ems, 911 and law enforcement agencies that where on the scene.
4. Training for 2025 has begun with good attendance in the courses being offered.
5. I would like to thank DPW for the hard work they did at the training center waxing the floors they came out great.
6. The Recruitment and Retention Task force had a successful year, we are working on a seminar to be held in March to help with retention.
7. The Rehabilitation Team is geared up for winter and ready to respond to large scale incidents.
8. The Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge has started on January 1, 2025 with 14 departments participating so far.
9. Attended an exercise with NYS DEP to discuss Dam failures and emergency response to the reservoirs in our area.
10. Statistics for the 2024 year will be available for the February meeting.



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File #: ID-7081

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 3.

911 Center Report

1. Our department participated in the CyberSecurity Capabilities workshop hosted by ITS and DHSES. Since so much of our operation revolves around technology and the work we do is mission critical, it was a very beneficial workshop which will lead to further discussions.
2. We ended a very busy year at the 911 Center, and I cannot commend my team enough on the work they do day-in and day-out to make sure our first responders are protected, getting our public the help they need and being the lifeline for all of our residents/guests. A more detailed report on call statistics will follow.
3. We are in the process of completing the environmental review for the Jeffersonville tower and plan to be in the construction phase later this year.
4. The County has executed a contract with Verizon Wireless to co-locate on our tower at the airport which will help improve their coverage in the Bethel/Swan Lake areas. I'd like to thank Julian and Commissioner McAndrew for their assistance on that project.

EMS Report

1. The County EMS fly car system continues to be an asset to our EMS system. They have responded to over 1000 calls in the 3 months they have been in service through the end of 2024. We continue to see an average 15 minute reduction in response time for mutual aid calls, with sometimes all (4) fly cars being on separate calls at once.
2. One recent call to highlight was an incident adjacent to the Liberty High School where a teen was stabbed. Our County EMS fly car was on scene within 2 minutes of the call and began to provide patient care to a critically injured patient, which included calling for a medevac unit. Empress arrived 15 minutes after the call and transported the patient to the landing zone. I applaud all those involved in this very serious incident.
3. During the holiday period, NYS DOH approved our controlled substance license allowing us to provide full Advanced Life Support services. SeniorCare has been moving as swiftly as possible, given the holidays, to complete the process along with our medical director and we anticipate full ALS operation to begin the week of January 6th, 2025.
4. Approved in the 2025 budget was funding to improve EMS training and education. I will be working with my team to hire some per-diem EMS Instructors which will support training for the 17 EMS agencies and EMT's in the County that are in need of continuing education and other EMT training opportunities.
5. SUNY Sullivan EMT program starts February 25th. If you or someone you know is looking for a change of career, wants to help their local volunteer ambulance or fire squad or simply wants to be prepared in an emergency – it's a great time to take an EMT course!



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File #: ID-7101

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Public Safety Committee
Probation Department Monthly Report
December 2024

Probation Supervision

Sex Offender unit has 31 active cases

Domestic Violence unit has 30 cases

56 CD IID cases

87 general supervision cases

14 DWI/Drug Court cases

77 DWI cases

16 Transfer Out Active cases

14 warrant cases

1 Youth Part cases

**666 open cases

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

93 active PTR cases

28 active Community Service cases

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

PSIs: 13

CPCS 3rd : 3

CPW 2nd: Loaded Firearm : 2

Att. CPW 2nd: Loaded Firearm : 1

Assault 2nd : 1

Att. Assault 2nd : 3

Burglary 3rd: 1

Arson 2nd : 1

Robbery 2nd : 1

PDI: 1

Petit Larceny

Intake

JD Intake: 3 (Crim. Trespass 3rd, Burglary 2nd, Petit Larceny)

Orders of Protection: 15

Financials

185 restitution cases

954 payments collected in 2024

Total deposit amount for December: \$7,557.83

Total restitution paid out to victims during 2024 as of December 31st:
\$46,680.77

Community Events/ Relations/ Training

*We are proud to say that, once again in 2024 our Peace Officers met (or exceeded) the DCJS Annual requirement of 21 training hours. We are pleased that some officers take a genuine interest in training - not only to better themselves but also to improve the department.

*On December 11, 2024, 5 members of our department attended the Cybersecurity Capability Workshop hosted by ITS.

* Sullivan 180 presented a workshop designed to teach our staff about suicide warning signs and QPR's 3 lifesaving skills. (Question, Persuade, Refer)



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File #: ID-7107

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 5.

Monthly Legislative Safety Committee Agenda Presentation – Jan. 2025

Presenter(s): Melissa and Camille

Topic: Drug Task Force Progress Update

Key Updates by Melissa

1. Fatality Review Board Development

- Organizational structure near finalization.
- Data collection and analysis in progress.
- Mock committee meetings being prepared.
- Last meeting held on 1/13/2025

2. Drug Task Force: Vaping Prevention

- **Vaping Roundtable Next meeting Feb 2025:** Sullivan 180 hosted 20 community leaders to address youth vaping surge in schools.
 - Key Focus: Prevention, education, and cessation.
 - Coalition for a Vape-Free Sullivan formed.
 - Pending JUUL settlement funds to support initiatives.
 - Contact for educational presentations: Trainings@Sullivan180.org.

3. Drug Task Force Open Community Meeting Held on December 13th

- **Purpose:** Review 2024 accomplishments and outline 2025 plans.
- **Presentations:**
 - **Inpatient Substance Use Treatment Facility:**
 - Plans for reopening inpatient services in early 2025 at Garnet Health – Catskills campus.
 - Addresses loss of inpatient services in 2023; Catholic Charities has since expanded outpatient options for adolescents at Sullivan BOCES.
 - **Workforce Development:**
 - Scott Curry from the Center for Workforce Development highlighted employment opportunities for individuals in recovery.
- **Pillar Updates:** Reports provided from Maternal/Child Health, Finance, Community Supports, Treatment Providers, Hospital and Healthcare Systems, Prevention, Law Enforcement, and Veteran Support.
- This meeting marked the first held outside the Government Center, emphasizing the Task Force's outreach and community engagement.

3. Pillar Updates

- **Financial Pillar:** Tracking opioid abatement fund allocation.
 - **Medical Provider Services:** Addressing training needs and substance use trends in the medical field.
 - **United Sullivan:**
 - **Medicaid Billing Update:**
 - **Start Date:** Medicaid-funded services (housing, nutrition, non-medical transportation, case management) to begin January 1, 2025, under the 1115 waiver program.
 - **Hudson Valley Care Coalition (HVCC):** Preparing operations and fee schedules for participating agencies; updates to follow.
 - **Unite Us Platform:** Enhancing capabilities to manage Medicaid billing. Local reps to assist partner agencies with adjustments.
 - **Sullivan County Network Stats:**
 - **Total Cases:** 826 cases, 464 clients served.
 - **Active Organizations:** 36 locally; access to 200 providers statewide.
 - **Referral Metrics:**
 - **Sending Organizations:** 18 active senders (+1).
 - **Receiving Organizations:** 65.
 - **Referral Outcomes:** 492 accepted (65.0%), 174 rejected (23.0%).
 - **Top 5 Case Types:**
 - Housing and Shelter (21.5%)
 - Individual and Family Supports (18.0%)
 - Food Assistance (15.1%)
 - Mental/Behavioral Health (12.8%)
 - Benefits Navigation (12.0%)
 - **Treatment Providers:**
 - Key initiatives: PSA content, PALM Cards, Stabilization Center, Mobile Crisis services and First Responder Wellness
 - Workforce integration in treatment services underway.
-

Key Updates by Camille

1. Prevention Efforts

- **Hope Not Handcuffs:** Free training for Angels – Continued Recruitment
 - Flyers being distributed to sign up for training

2. Outreach and Prevention:

- **Cannabis Campaign:** Education on safe use, locking storage, and RX Destroyer for cannabis disposal.
- **Anti-Stigma Efforts:** Billboard and anti-stigma song in development.

- **Wound Care Kits:** SALT and Catholic Charities distributing kits and socks.
 - Going into vending machines
- **Youth Programs:** RESTART program operational; alcohol/drug education reaching over 60 students.

3. Policy Reform Pillar:

- Working with SALT Legislative Action Committee
 - Adding Cannabis to the Social Host Law
 - Training & Education for Points of Sale
 - Looking to set up meeting with Legislators before next month's Safety Committee to talk about possible policies like proximity, signage, responsible sales

4. Law Enforcement Pillar

- **QRT Initiatives:** Support for non-fatal overdose victims and jail release follow-ups.
- **HIDTA Analyst:** New hire to improve overdose data tracking.
 - **Visit to CAC on 1/24**

5. Veteran Pillar

- Continued outreach and assistance for veterans.



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File #: ID-7074

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Narrative of Resolution:

To create (1) new Deputy Fire Coordinator position within the Division of Public Safety; a position assigned to support special operations, focused on complex rescues and emerging technologies in first response

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

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$8,500.00

Are funds already budgeted? No

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures: N/A

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE TO CREATE A NEW DEPUTY FIRE COORDINATOR POSITION WITHIN THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY; A POSITION ASSIGNED TO SUPPORT SPECIAL OPERATIONS, FOCUSED ON COMPLEX RESCUES AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN FIRST RESPONSE

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature recognizes the need for continued enhancement of public safety services and support for our first responders; and

WHEREAS, the landscape of emergency response and fire services is evolving due to the rapid advancement of technology, including unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), advanced communications tools, and data-driven response strategies, which require specialized knowledge and expertise for effective deployment in emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, the increasing complexity of emergency responses, particularly for large-scale incidents, specialized rescue operations, and disaster preparedness, necessitates additional personnel focused on the integration and management of these emerging technologies within fire and emergency operations; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Division of Public Safety has identified a critical gap in specialized support for first responders in fields such as Underwater/Dive Rescue, Swift Water/Flood Rescue, Ice Rescue, Trench and Collapse Rescue, UAS, and FAST/RIT; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a new Deputy Fire Coordinator position, specifically dedicated to special operations related to complex rescues and emerging technologies, will help ensure that Sullivan County’s fire services are well-equipped and prepared to respond to modern challenges, improve the safety of responders, and increase the effectiveness of emergency operations; and

WHEREAS, this new Deputy Fire Coordinator position will be tasked with overseeing the integration and utilization of advanced technologies such as drones, GPS mapping systems, remote monitoring tools, and other cutting-edge equipment in support of fire, rescue, and disaster response operations; and

WHEREAS, the new position will also focus on training first responders in the use of these technologies, coordinating with local agencies, and ensuring that Sullivan County remains at the forefront of public safety innovation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Legislature’s Public Safety and Law Enforcement Committee hereby recommends approval to create a new Deputy Fire Coordinator position dedicated to special operations involving complex rescues and emerging technologies utilized by the first response community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Legislature authorizes the additional Deputy Fire Coordinator position at a salary of eight thousand five hundred (\$8,500.00) dollars annually, which will enhance the County's public safety capabilities and support its emergency response teams.



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Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
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File #: ID-7076

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 2.

Narrative of Resolution:

To Request Approval for One-Time and Recurring Funding for UAS and Communications Technology for the Division of Public Safety

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

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$138,250 (one-time), \$32,300 (recurring annually)

Are funds already budgeted? No

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures: N/A

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE TO REQUEST APPROVAL FOR ONE-TIME AND RECURRING FUNDING FOR UAS AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Public Safety and Law Enforcement Committee recognizes the importance of providing our first responders with the best tools and technology to ensure their ability to protect and serve the community; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Public Safety in conjunction with the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office has identified a critical need for advanced technology to enhance operational effectiveness, particularly in response to emergencies and public safety operations; and

WHEREAS, the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and upgraded communications technology will significantly improve the County's capabilities in hazardous materials situations, train derailments, wildfire and other aerial monitoring, search and rescue operations, flood response, collapse, damage assessment, EMS, and overall situational awareness, while also enhancing coordination during emergencies and large-scale incidents; and

WHEREAS, the UAS technology is essential for providing first responders with real-time data from areas that are difficult to access, ensuring rapid decision-making and improving the safety of personnel and the public; and

WHEREAS, updated communications technology will provide secure, reliable, and seamless communication between first responders, dispatch, and other critical agencies during emergency operations, particularly in areas with limited or no cell, internet, and/or radio coverage; and

WHEREAS, funding for the purchase of UAS and communications technology, along with associated training and equipment maintenance, will ensure that these technologies can be deployed immediately and sustain operations over time; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby approves a one-time funding allocation of \$138,250.00, and annual recurring funding in the amount of \$32,300.00 to the Division of Public

Safety in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office for the purpose of purchasing and supporting UAS and communications technology; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funding will be used solely for the purchase, maintenance, and operational support of the UAS and communications equipment as detailed in the submitted request, with an emphasis on enhancing the safety and effectiveness of first responders throughout Sullivan County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2025 Operating Budget is modified as follows for the purpose of funding for UAS and Communications Technology for the Division of Public Safety:

Increase A-3010-41-4106	\$1,000.00
Increase A-3010-43-4302	\$3,000.00
Increase A-3010-44-4405	\$6,600.00
Increase A-3010-44-4406	\$35,938.00
Increase A-3010-45-4541	\$91,712.00
Decrease A-1989-99-47-4736	\$138,250.00 (Contingent)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Sullivan County Legislature for approval.

Effective Date: Immediately upon adoption



Sullivan County
Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
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File #: ID-7082

Agenda Date: 1/16/2025

Agenda #: 3.

Narrative of Resolution:

Approve double time for Correction Officers working overtime at the Sullivan County Jail for the period between February 1, 2025 - July 31, 2025

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

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: Average of \$40,000 a month

Are funds already budgeted? Choose an item.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY LUIS A. ALVAREZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING DOUBLE TIME FOR CORRECTION OFFICERS WORKING OVERTIME BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1, 2025 AND JULY 31, 2025

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature adopted Resolution No. 540-24 that authorized paying Correction Officers double time for a period of September 19, 2024 through January 31, 2025 due to the increase overtime due to staffing shortages and retirements, and resignations; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be a shortage of Corrections Officers, and

WHEREAS, staff in the Sullivan County Jail Division continue to be overworked constantly, and

WHEREAS, this staffing shortage has resulted in increased amounts of overtime.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby authorizes the continuation of double time for those Correction Officers working overtime between February 1, 2025 and July 31, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the budget modification for this additional funding of approximately \$40,000 a month for this expenditure shall be transferred from the contingent account into the personnel overtime line under the Sheriff Jail account.