Contact: Jason Boyd Telephone: (440) 350-2745 Email: jason.boyd@lakecountyohio.gov FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE APRIL 7, 2022

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DECLARE THE WEEK OF APRIL 10-16, 2022, NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO

PAINESVILLE, OH, April 7, 2022 – Lake County Commissioners declare the week of April 10-16, 2022, as National Telecommunicators Week in Lake County, Ohio. Established in 1994, when President William J. Clinton signed <u>Presidential Proclamation 6667</u> declaring the second week of April National Telecommunicators Week. This week is a time to celebrate and thank our dispatchers / telecommunications. These outstanding professionals serve our Lake County communities and citizens, as well as public safety personnel, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In 2021, the Lake County Sheriff's Office Central Communications division handled *147,203* emergency 911 calls. In addition to the noted 911 call volume, Central Communications also answered *187,082* non-911 calls. This includes all non-emergency needs for service and public assistance. In total, Central Communications fielded *334,285* calls in 2021!

The Lake County Sheriff's Office operates the Central Communications Center at 8505 Garfield Rd. in Kirtland, Ohio. This facility is the primary 911 answering center for all cellular calls made in Lake County. This state-of-the-art facility utilizes advanced technology to provide emergency services and basic calls for service to the citizens of Lake County. This facility is also the primary dispatch center for 21 police and fire agencies throughout Lake County. This consists of twelve (12) law enforcement agencies and nine (9) Fire/EMS agencies.

"We thank our Lake County Telecommunicators and Dispatchers, not only here at the Lake County Sheriff's office but at every dispatch center throughout Lake County, for their service and commitment. They are the first voice you here when you call for help and it is their calm during the storm that gets help started your way," said Lake County Sheriff Frank Leonbruno.

Commissioner Hamercheck thanked the ladies and gentlemen for their professionalism. "You have our gratitude not only during Telecommunicators week but each and every day. You are the first voice our residents hear in emergency situations and your ability to carefully communicate with them is invaluable. Your commitment to public safety is part of why we are proud to call Lake County home."

"Telecommunicators Week honors those who have the difficult job and responsibility of answering 9-1-1 calls, determining required resources, dispatching those resources, and providing guidance, comfort, and support to the caller until help arrives and Lake County has well-trained professionals taking these calls and I am truly grateful," said Commissioner John Plecnik.

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