



March 3, 2010

Honorable Norma Torres, Member
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4164
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1679 – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Torres:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 3,200 rank and file deputy sheriffs, deputy probation officers, law enforcement investigators and counselors, coroners and bailiffs – the entire law enforcement team in Riverside County - supports your bill, AB 1679.

The number "911" is the primary emergency telephone number in the state. There is a surcharge fee imposed annually to provide the revenues thought to be sufficient to fund this very important system in every local public agency, even the smallest and most remote. Regarding the use of the emergency "911" system, there has been a major increase in the number of calls over the last several years – an increase so large that the Department of the California Highway Patrol, according to Legislative figures, receives approximately 750,000 "911" calls per month.

This bill designates the second full week of April of each year as California Public Safety Tele-communicators' Week. We thank you for heightening citizen awareness of the importance of "911" in helping us keep the public safe.

Very truly yours,

Pat McNamara
President

Timothy H. B. Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: RSA
Members/Consultants - Utilities and Commerce Committee