

Douglas, Jessica

From: Arnold, Bradley
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2010 7:52 AM
To: Douglas, Jessica
Subject: FW: Legislation

Importance: High

[Put under my reports for the 9/28/10 meeting.](#)

From: Keenum, Marie
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 10:24 AM
To: Sheriff Farmer ; Chief Deputy Jack Jordan [SCSO]
Cc: Hoffman, Richard; Gilpin, Doug; Breeden, Garry; Mask, Randy; Burgess, Don; Bradley Arnold
Subject: Legislation
Importance: High

Hi,

The text below was drafted by a 911 Coordinators and as it covers my concerns I am forwarding it to for your consideration.
Thank you.

“As you know for several years the Florida 911 Coordinators have been attempting to pass legislation to remove an exemption to collect the 911 Fee Fund on prepaid mobile phones. During the last legislative session HB163 extended the exemption of the collection of the 9-1-1 Fee Fund for prepaid wireless carriers to July 1, 2013. This exemption creates an undue burden on subscribers of wireless and non-wireless carriers, and exacerbates the falling revenue source for Counties who subsidize the costs of maintaining 9-1-1 systems with general fund revenue.

Prepaid subscribers made up 20.3 percent of the industry in December 2009, up from 17.8 percent at the end of 2008, according to the international wireless trade group, CTIA. According to a 2010 article in the Knoxville News Sentinel, Sprint has seen 60 percent of its new customers this year choose a no-contract option, such as Boost or Virgin Mobile, and T-Mobile has seen its prepaid customers double since 2006.

The lost revenue is no longer restricted to basic cell phone sales. Not only are sales trending toward prepaid cell phones due to subscribers balking at restrictive contracts and \$100.00 per month bills, MetroPCS has plans to offer feature rich phones such as Blackberry and 4G wireless to their prepaid product line. Boost Mobile just launched its first prepaid touch-screen smart phone and first Android smart phone, the No. 1 selling smart-phone operating system in the U.S. These trends clearly predict that accelerated growth in the prepaid market will mirror an accelerated loss in 911 revenues for Florida counties.

The Department of Management Services reports that Florida Statute No. 365.172 required the E9-1-1 Board to conduct a study to determine whether it is feasible to collect E9-1-1 fees from the sale of all prepaid wireless services. The study provides information confirming that it is feasible to collect E9-1-1 fees from the sale of prepaid wireless services on an equitable, competitively neutral, and non-discriminatory basis.

My request is to urgently petition the Florida Association of Counties to place the prepaid 911 fee fund exemption on the legislative docket at the 2010-11 Policy Committee Conference will be held [September 22-24](#) which will determine their legislative agenda for the upcoming session.”

Please call me if you have questions or suggestion about this or any other 911 issue.

Marie Keenum, ENP

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