



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

# Proclamation

## A PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

**WHEREAS**, public safety telecommunicators — the dispatchers, call-takers, and communications professionals who answer our calls for help — serve as the vital first link in the chain of emergency response for the residents of Arapahoe County, available every hour of every day, including weekends, holidays, and during the most challenging circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is observed annually during the second week of April, a tradition that began in 1981 through the initiative of Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Office and was formally recognized by Congress and signed into law by President William J. Clinton in 1994, establishing a permanent, nationwide week of honor for these essential public servants; and

**WHEREAS**, public safety telecommunicators demonstrate extraordinary skill, composure, and compassion in guiding callers through the most frightening moments of their lives — directing law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services with speed and precision, often making life-or-death decisions in a matter of seconds, while fielding an estimated 240 million 9-1-1 calls made annually across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the men and women who staff Arapahoe County’s emergency communications center carry out their duties under intense pressure, working 12-hour shifts and remaining steadfast through crises ranging from medical emergencies and natural disasters to complex multi-agency public safety incidents, all while providing a calm and steady voice of reassurance to those in need; and

**WHEREAS**, despite being among the most highly stressed professions in the United States — with emergency call-takers scoring near the top of national stress-tolerance indices and many experiencing occupational trauma similar to post-traumatic stress — our telecommunicators continue to show up with dedication, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to the communities they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, Arapahoe County recognizes that public safety telecommunicators are often the unsung heroes of our emergency services system, performing indispensable work that directly protects and preserves lives, property, and the safety of both civilians and first responders throughout our community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim April 12–18, 2026, as “National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week” in Arapahoe County, and calls upon all residents to recognize and express gratitude for the exceptional service and sacrifice of our emergency communications professionals, whose voices of calm and expertise have guided us through our most difficult moments and helped keep our community safe.

Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully

Commissioner Jessica Campbell

Commissioner Leslie Summey  
Chair of the Board

Commissioner Jeff Baker  
Chair Pro Tem

Commissioner Rhonda Fields