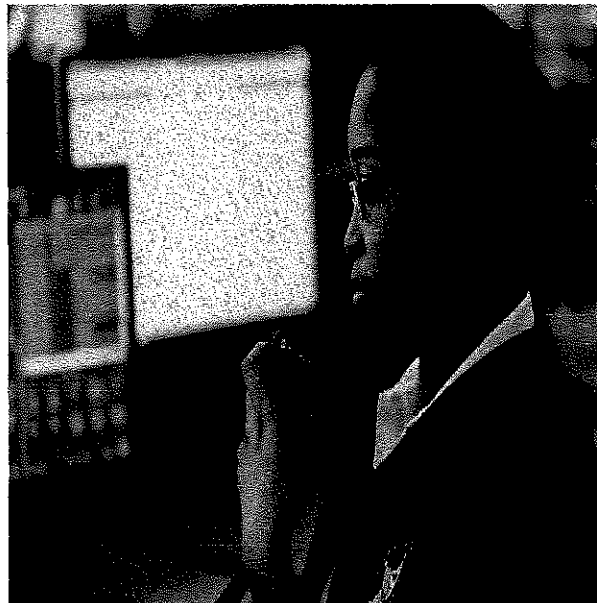


Public Safety Communications

Public Safety Communications

The Public Safety Communications Center (PSC) is a joint venture between the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office and the Public Safety Communications Division of the Sarasota County Emergency Services Department.

- All PSC personnel are employed and managed by the Sheriff's Office while all technology and the operating budget are provided by the Public Safety Communications Division.
- This state-of-the-art communications center is the primary answering point for all 9-1-1 calls for Sarasota County.
- The PSC provides full communications services for the Sarasota County Fire Department, Nokomis Volunteer Fire Department, City Venice Police and Fire Departments, Longboat Key Police and Fire Departments, North Port Fire Department, Englewood Fire Control District, Sarasota City Police Department and the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office.



The PSC became an accredited facility by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) in November 2002.

The PSC has also been reaccredited under the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA).

The PSC manages the county Motorola Astro 800 MHz Smart Net digital trunked radio system and is in the process of replacing it with an Airbus DS Communications P25 radio network. The PSC utilizes a Hexagon Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch system (CAD) and A West computerized 911 call processing system. The PSC maintains a fully functional back-up operation at the North Port Police Department in the event that the main center must be evacuated.

Tips for all 9-1-1 callers:

- Try to stay calm, dial 9-1-1
- Give the location of your emergency and your call back number

- Tell what type of help is needed (police, fire, ambulance)
- Stay on the line and answer 9-1-1's questions
- Don't hang up until the call is complete