



ARIZONA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

1910 W. JEFFERSON PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85009
TELEPHONE: (602) 252-6563 FACSIMILE: (602) 254-0969

DAVID CLOUSE, NAVAJO COUNTY SHERIFF, PRESIDENT
WILL PONCE, LA PAZ COUNTY SHERIFF, VICE PRESIDENT

THE ARIZONA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION IS THE ONE UNITED CREDIBLE VOICE REPRESENTING LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE COUNTIES OF ARIZONA

Friday, May 15, 2026

The Honorable Warren Petersen
President, Arizona State Senate

The Honorable Steve Montenegro
Speaker, Arizona House of Representatives

The Honorable David Farnsworth
Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee

The Honorable David Livingston
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee

Arizona State Legislature
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: FY27 Stabilization Funding for Arizona's Statewide 911 System

Dear President Petersen, Speaker Montenegro, Chairman Farnsworth, Chairman Livingston, and
Members of Legislative Leadership:

On behalf of the Arizona Sheriffs' Association (ASA), we write to express our support for the
inclusion of one-time stabilization funding in the FY27 budget for Arizona's statewide 911 system
(AZ911).

Sheriffs throughout Arizona rely on the integrity and reliability of the state's emergency
communications system every day. Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) serve as the critical first
point of contact between the public and first responders during emergencies, and any disruption
to call-handling capacity or system reliability has the potential to directly impact emergency
response operations across the state.

We understand the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) has identified a projected
funding shortfall that may result in a substantial reduction in grant support for local PSAP
operations in the upcoming fiscal year. From a public safety perspective, maintaining continuity in

emergency communications and dispatch operations are essential to ensuring reliable law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical response for Arizona communities.

ASA supports consideration of a one-time FY27 appropriation to stabilize local PSAP funding and avoid near-term operational disruptions while stakeholders continue evaluating the long-term sustainability of Arizona's 911 funding structure.

As policymakers consider future options, ASA believes it is important that discussions remain collaborative, transparent, and informed by comprehensive operational and fiscal analysis. We encourage continued engagement among ADOA, local governments, public safety agencies, and legislative leadership to evaluate long-term system needs and identify sustainable solutions that preserve reliable emergency communications statewide.

Arizona's sheriffs remain committed to working collaboratively with state and local partners to ensure Arizona's emergency response infrastructure remains dependable, resilient, and capable of meeting the needs of our growing state.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of public safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David M. Clouse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Clouse" clearly distinguishable.

David Clouse
President
Navajo County Sheriff

cc: The Honorable John Kavanagh, Majority Leader, Arizona State Senate
The Honorable Kevin Payne, Arizona State Senate
The Honorable Priya Sundareshan, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable Oscar De Los Santos, House Minority Leader