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### **Cheney Police Department to join regionalized emergency communications system**

June 13, 2024, Cheney, Wash. – On June 11, 2024 Spokane Regional Emergency Communications (SREC) entered in to an Service Level Agreement with the City of Cheney to provide 911 call receiving and dispatch support services for the City of Cheney Police Department.

As the demand for state-of-the-art technology continues to increase and maintaining 24/7 staffing creates challenges in today’s job market, the City of Cheney made the decision to join SREC’s regionalized emergency communications model.

"We are excited to welcome Cheney Police Department as a new member agency at SREC. We are fortunate to live in a community where we have strong partnerships amongst our county's public safety agencies. Integrated emergency communications improve those partnerships and allows us to coordinate our actions for the best service delivery to our community. We are truly better together," said District 3 Fire Chief and SREC Board Chair Cody Rohrbach.

The regionalized model for emergency communications continues to be the best practice and gold standard for public safety and one embraced by all 14 Spokane County Fire Districts, and six law enforcement agencies. The City of Cheney Police Department will be the 7<sup>th</sup> county law enforcement agency to join.

"We are so excited that our law enforcement partners at the Cheney Police Department and the City of Cheney will be joining our regional SREC 911 team to provide enhanced collaborative opportunities for service to our West Plains communities" said Airway Heights Chief of Police and SREC Board Vice Chair Brad Richmond.



"As we assess the expenses related to technology and staffing for serving our community, transitioning to a regionalized model seemed like the logical choice. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to deliver top-notch service to our citizens," said City Administrator Mark Schuler.

"It's crucial for the Cheney Police Department to establish connections with other county agencies to ensure seamless service and safety. This shift has been under discussion for some time, but its urgency became even more evident during the August fires. Leveraging an integrated CAD system will yield numerous advantages and streamline our daily communications while protecting our citizens and first responders," said Chief Rick Beghtol.

As the City of Cheney and SREC continue to plan for the transition of services, both agencies remain committed to supporting the community and working towards this important milestone. More information will be forthcoming regarding the official day and time for SREC to take over 911 services for the Cheney Police Department.

### ***About City of Cheney***

The city of Cheney is a thriving community of 12,640 full-time residents and is located just 17 miles southwest of Spokane. Our quality of life is unmatched because of our small-town atmosphere and family-friendly environment. Outdoor recreational opportunities abound in the Cheney area, such as fishing, boating, biking, hiking, and camping. Just south of Cheney is the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, a unique area of wetlands, grasslands, and forests, where you can see a variety of birds, waterfowl, and other forest dwellers in their natural habitat. Cheney is home to Eastern Washington University and the "Inferno" a famous red-turf football field. For more information about the city of Cheney, please visit [www.cityofcheney.org](http://www.cityofcheney.org).

### ***About Spokane Regional Emergency Communications***

Spokane Regional Emergency Communications (SREC) is a regionalized emergency response communications organization formed in 2018 as a Public Development Authority. Located in Spokane, Washington, SREC serves more than 550,000 citizens throughout the county as the primary PSAP for the region. In addition to answering emergency and non-emergency calls, SREC provides Fire and Law Dispatch services to 14 local Fire Protection Authorities and 6 local Law Enforcement Agencies in Spokane County. These services span more than 1,700 miles, and include management of more than 4,900 radios, 23 tower sites, and a backup center. SREC also writes reports for most of the law enforcement agencies in the region. We currently employ approximately 137 employees across the organization. Our mission is to get the right resources to the right location with an uncompromising focus on responder and citizen safety.