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# BUREAU OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS



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## NEWS RELEASE

The Bureau of Emergency Communications will honor the men and women who serve as public safety dispatchers during **National Public-Safety Telecommunications Week, April 14-20, 2002.**

Introduced to Congress by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International in 1991, National Public-Safety Telecommunications Week is the second week of April each year. This week is dedicated to public safety Telecommunicators who aid in providing 9-1-1 emergency assistance to citizens everywhere.

The term "9-1-1" is often associated with rapid emergency response, poise under pressure, aid and compassion in times of distress and critical decision-making within seconds. Many people don't stop to think about these seemingly nameless, faceless individuals until they experience actual emergencies themselves. These professionals make the difference between life and death in many instances.

This year, we will host our **Eleventh Annual Employee Awards Banquet** on April 11, 2002, a few days before the Telecommunications Week actually begins. This banquet will honor our employee of the year, Lynette Fay, as well as recognize the achievements of several BOEC employees during the past year. This awards banquet will be held at Shenanigan's Restaurant on the Willamette between 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Mayor Katz, Commissioner Saltzman, BOEC Director Carl Simpson and Portland Fire Bureau Chief Ed Wilson are slated to speak at this event. Entertainment is also planned, and this event is open to the media. Additionally, a **Media Event at BOEC** is being planned for the afternoon of Tuesday, April 16, 2002. More information about that event will be distributed soon.

If you would like more information about the banquet, or the week's festivities, please contact one of the Bureau's PIO's listed above.

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