

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL AND THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DESIGNATING CUMBERLAND COUNTY AS THE LEAD ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY AND OUTLINING THEIR INTENT AND AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A SINGLE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Fayetteville City Council and Cumberland County Board of Commissioners reaffirm their commitments to the consolidation of 911 emergency communications operations between the City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County into a single, unified Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP); and

WHEREAS, the City and County intend to request that the State fund a qualified third-party consultant to provide consolidation and implementation recommendations and guidance, and if the State declines, then the City and County shall engage such consultant and fund the costs evenly with each paying fifty percent; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Board of Commissioners agree that effective consolidation requires a single lead administrative agency to carry operational and administrative responsibility for consolidated PSAP operations, exercised through a joint governance structure with joint decision-making; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County operates the county 911 system, currently holds accreditation as a Tri-Ace Center of Excellence and is positioned to operate and maintain the single, consolidated PSAP as the lead administrative agency for consolidated PSAP operations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Board of Commissioners agree that the lead administrative agency designation shall be accompanied by defined, measurable performance standards and a four-year performance review, so that the consolidated operation remains accountable to both bodies; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners agree to the consolidation and to completing the following:

1. **Lead Administrative Agency.** The single, consolidated PSAP shall be operated and maintained by the Cumberland County government, and Cumberland County shall serve as the lead administrative agency for consolidated PSAP operations, carrying operational and administrative responsibility for the consolidated center serving all emergency communication needs of the county and the municipalities located within the county. The single PSAP shall maintain service levels that meet or exceed the standards established by the North Carolina 911 Board and the National Emergency Number Association. The

consolidated PSAP shall comply with all applicable requirements of Part 10 of Article 15 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes, including personnel training and certification, technical and operational standards, call handling and dispatch protocols, funding, and reporting and record-keeping requirements established by the North Carolina 911 Board. Governance shall be exercised jointly, with joint decision-making on matters of policy, budget, service standards, and accreditation, through a joint governance structure that includes executive representation of both the County and the City.

2. **Memorandum of Understanding.** Within 45 days of execution of this joint resolution, the bodies shall enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining their preliminary agreement toward consolidation, including the bodies' commitment to preserving all current personnel and providing salary parity, equitable cost allocation between participants through interlocal agreements, determined in collaboration with the participating municipalities and considering factors such as population, call volume, property tax base, and other mutually agreed criteria, providing a base level of service to all jurisdictions, with enhanced or specialized services funded separately by the requesting municipality, capital investment guidelines addressing the ownership of and responsibility for the facilities, equipment, and technology required for consolidated operations, the process for joint approval of major capital decisions, and the pursuit of available grant funding to offset capital costs, the joint governance model with joint decision-making, the lead administrative agency designation, the performance standards and four-year performance review set out below, and achieving and maintaining the highest standards of accreditation.
3. **Third-Party Consultant.** Within 30 days of executing the MOU, the bodies shall jointly procure a third-party consultant to assist with consolidation and implementation recommendations and guidance, including recommending the defined performance standards described below.
4. **Implementation.** Within 36 months of receiving the consultant's report, the bodies shall implement the consolidation plan as recommended by the consultant.
5. **Performance Standards and Four-Year Review.** The MOU shall establish defined, measurable performance standards for consolidated PSAP operations, including, at a minimum, call-answering and dispatch performance, maintenance of accreditation, retention of qualified personnel, integration of behavioral and mental health crisis response, and cost performance. Cumberland County's designation as lead administrative agency shall be subject to an independent performance review at the conclusion of a four-year period measured from the commencement of consolidated operations. If the independent review determines that the defined performance standards have not been met during that

period, the bodies shall convene to address the deficiencies, and the County shall cure any such deficiencies identified.

6. Fort Bragg Engagement. The City and County jointly commit to formally invite Fort Bragg to engage in discussions regarding its potential involvement in the consolidated 911 communications center, building on the established cooperation between Fort Bragg and Cumberland County emergency communications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Fayetteville and the Board of Commissioners of Cumberland County, North Carolina, that the bodies hereby respectfully request that the North Carolina General Assembly defer state intervention while the City, County, and Municipalities collaborate toward consolidated PSAP operations under Cumberland County as the lead administrative agency.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the dates as executed below; such meetings were held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, at which meetings a quorum was present and voting.

This, the ____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE CITY
COUNCIL

JENNIFER AYRE, City Clerk

BY: _____
MITCH COLVIN, Mayor

This, the 26 day of June, 2026.

ATTEST:

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

Andrea Tebbe
ANDREA TEBBE, Clerk to the Board

BY: _____
KIRK J. DEVIERE, Chairman

