



Abilene Police Department

## News Release

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### National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

April 8 – 14, 2018

ABILENE, TX – Each year during the second week of April, the telecommunications personnel in the public safety community, are honored. This week long event, initially set up in 1981 by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in California, is a time to celebrate and thank those who dedicate their lives to serving the public. It is a week set aside so everyone can be made aware of their hard work and dedication.

This year multiple entities in Abilene have come together to show appreciation to the 37 Abilene Police/Fire Department dispatchers as well as the 12 Taylor County Sheriff's Office dispatchers. Their day to day work is often overlooked and underappreciated, however they are the "Tip of the Spear." These telecommunicators are the first voice heard from those seeking help from first responders. They juggle the tremendous task of answering calls, calming those calling, documenting important information to ensure first responders are well informed, dispatching the appropriate personnel, and ensure those personnel are accounted for. Without those willing to carry this load the quality of service provided would drastically decrease.

The Abilene Police and Fire ask the public to help us celebrate these individuals that stand in the gap for all first responders. We thank them for all the sacrifices that make to create a better and safer world for the public. Their commitment to the profession is appreciated by all first responders and the citizens you serve.

Respectfully,

Sgt. Kevin Ohnheiser  
Public Information, Abilene Police Department

Stan Standridge, Chief of Police | 450 Pecan | Abilene, TX | 79602

*"We work together to build and maintain a community of the highest quality for present and future generations"*



@abilenepd



Abilene Police  
Department

"You are the  
first line of  
defense  
against crime"