

August 22, 2019

To: All County 9-1-1 Coordinators

From: Rob Jackson, Ohio 9-1-1 Administrator

Subject: Change to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 128.021

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The recent budget legislation for the State of Ohio (HB 166) became effective July 18, 2019. Within the legislation was a measure that added language to ORC 128.021(A) as follows:

128.021(A): *Not later than January 2, 2014, and in accordance with Chapter 119 of the Revised Code, the steering committee shall adopt rules that establish technical and operational standards for public safety answering points eligible to receive disbursements under section 128.55 of the Revised Code. The rules shall incorporate industry standards and best practices for wireless 9-1-1 services. Public safety answering points shall comply with the standards not later than two years after the effective date of the rules adopting the standards. **A public safety answering point may be deemed compliant with the rules for minimum staffing standards if it can demonstrate compliance with all other rules for operational standards.***

This change will now be taken into consideration during all subsequent support and compliance reviews. If a county meets all other operational standards in the PSAP Operations Rules (OAC 5507-1: 1-19), but does not meet the minimum staffing rule, the review will result with an "In-Compliance" determination in line with the new ORC language.

Although this ORC change has ensured counties in this circumstance will not lose Wireless 9-1-1 Government Assistance Fund disbursements, the PSAP Operations Rules, which also serve as best practices, still contain minimum staffing language and it is recommended that counties attempt to meet the standard for public safety.

Should you have any questions, please contact our office.

Respectfully,



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