



**To:** IACIR  
**From:** Association of Indiana Counties  
**Date:** September 19, 2012  
**Re:** **911 Funding and Operations**

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**General Observations:**

- Fee revenue is prioritized in the following manner (IC 36-8-16.7-37):
  - Expenses of the board.
  - 92 county hold harmless
  - 92 county growth factor
  - Excess distribution formula
- Funding under new fee structure appears to be on track to fund the hold harmless.
- Fee revenue distributed to counties and appropriated to PSAPS by county councils. *see* "Sec. 38. (a) A PSAP may use a distribution from a county under this chapter only for the following:" All funds must be appropriated by council unless otherwise provided by law (IC 36-2-5-2).
- Counties are under no obligation to use PSAP revenue for dispatch expenses or to consolidate dispatch services. General fund contributions from multiple units are necessary in many cases to properly fund dispatch.
- "PSAP"
  - Sec. 20. As used in this chapter, "PSAP" refers to a public safety answering point:
    - (1) that operates on a twenty-four (24) hour basis; and
    - (2) whose primary function is to receive incoming requests for emergency assistance and relay those requests to an appropriate responding public safety agency.

**Challenges:**

- **Fees will not fully support "911."** General fund support will be necessary and these are under the most stress from other needs.
  - Sub issue is the divergence in language between the operators and the statute. Those "on the ground" see it as one service but the fee is not set up that way.
- **Inequities in dispatch funding.** Some municipalities contribute to consolidated dispatch and others do not.
- **Unenforceable consolidation mandate?** Counties cannot compel a municipality to consolidate its PSAP potentially resulting in loss of all fee revenue.
- **New technologies.** Specifically this exemption: "A user that accesses communications service solely through a wireless data only service plan." IC 36-8-16.7-32(e)(4).