



Armondo Pavone Mayor

## Proclamation

*Whereas*, the federal government's Standard Occupational Classification System (SOCS) classifies workers into occupational categories for statistical purposes, based upon the nature of the work performed, and, in some cases, based upon the skills, education, or training needed to perform the work; and

*Whereas*, America's 911 Public Safety Telecommunicators (PST) are categorized in the SOCS as an "Office and Administrative Support Occupation," a category including secretarial staff and clerical workers; and

*Whereas*, classifying PSTs as "Protective Service Occupation," alongside police, firefighters, security guards, lifeguards, and others whose job is to protect our communities, would better reflect the work they perform and align the SOCS with related classification systems; and

*Whereas*, on March 7, 2019, the 911 SAVES ACT, a bipartisan bill to reclassify 911 PSTs to "Protective Service Occupation" stalled in the legislative process; and

*Whereas*, nine states currently consider 911 PSTs as "First Responders," and the Washington State 911 community is actively working to introduce similar legislation in Olympia; and

*Whereas*, the City of Renton is served by Valley Communications Center 911, known as Valley Com 911, whose PSTs are highly trained professionals working under a uniquely stressful environment and handling over 616,000 phone calls and over 472,000 dispatchable calls for service a year; and

*Whereas*, Valley Com 911 PSTs are the first of the First Responders providing life-saving pre-arrival instructions, triage, mediation, de-escalation and a calm presence on the telephone and radio that is focused on both responder and public safety; and

*Whereas*, recognizing our 911 PSTs for the critical role in emergency response cannot and should not wait for the passage of the 911 SAVES ACT and we believe that these local actions will help support and further similar legislation that 911 PSTs deserve;

*Now, therefore*, I, Armondo Pavone, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim that the 911 Public-Safety Telecommunicators at Valley Communications Center 911 are recognized and elevated to the status of First Responders who serve our community.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 12th day of April, 2021.

Armondo Pavone, Mayor  
City of Renton, Washington

