

# **Okaloosa County News Release**

4/12/2012

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**Photo Cutline:** *Public Safety Director Dino Villani presents 911 Operator Kelly Sory with Telecommunicator of the Year award.*

NR12-65

## **2012 National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week April 8-14** *Kelly Sory 2012 Telecommunicator of the Year*

“National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is set aside to recognize the hard work and dedication put forth by all our 911 operators and dispatchers on a daily basis,” stated Public Safety Director Dino Villani. “Additionally, we recognize Kelly Sory, selected Okaloosa County’s 2012 Telecommunicator of the Year.” The annual Telecommunicator of the Year award recognizes the outstanding work performed by a County Warning Point employee.

The Department of Public Safety also hosted two luncheons during the week for the telecommunicators to help celebrate the weeklong event. “As the ‘First First Responders,’ they are the faceless voices on 911 calls and are always ready to ‘answer the call,’ says Daniel Dunlap, 911 Communications Division Chief. “Public Safety telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services.”

Residents are also encouraged at this time, to make their address more visible to emergency responders will help to ensure a fast and safe response to an emergency. For more information, please contact the Okaloosa County Public Safety Department at 850-651-7150 or the 311 Citizens Information Line.

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