

Cpt. Robert E. Palmer
Police Director
908-874-3333



Police Department
2261 Van Horne Road
(Route 206)
Belle Mead, NJ 08502

Police Message to Montgomery Township Residents and Businesses

Dear Neighbor:

After lengthy deliberation and consultation, the Montgomery Township Committee decided in January to transfer the emergency communications function from the municipal Police Department to Somerset County Communications, for the purpose of realizing cost-savings to township taxpayers.

Somerset County Communications is a county-wide emergency communications center located in Somerville and directed by the Somerset County Division of Emergency Management. It currently dispatches police, fire and emergency medical assets for several Somerset County municipalities, and will now also perform this function for Montgomery Township.

The transfer will be complete on or about July 6, whereupon the Police Department will close its full-service emergency communications center. Here is how the new system will work:

- All 9-1-1 telephone calls generated from any hard-wire telephone within Montgomery Township will be received at Somerset County Communications. (As is currently the case, 9-1-1 calls from cell phones may be received by other agencies and transferred to County dispatch.)
- The non-emergency (908) 359-3222 number will remain operational but will be answered at the County. Somerset County Communications dispatchers will direct your call in order for you to receive the appropriate response. Use this number if you have an immediate need of police assistance, but not for regular police business calls (see back side).

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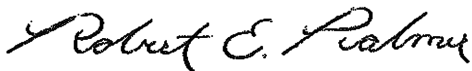
Montgomery Township Police Department

**Emergency Dial 911
Non-Emergency Dial 908-359-3222
Administrative Calls Dial 908-874-3333**

- A police business phone number, (908) 874-3333, will allow callers to contact the Police Dept. directly during regular business hours M - F 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will access voicemail after hours. This phone number is for administrative business ie. requesting a police report, a firearms permit, leaving a message for a specific police officer, etc.
- There will no longer be a police dispatcher in the municipal building 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. The municipal building will be closed outside of regular business hours. Arrangements have been made to accommodate public access at evening meetings that take place in the municipal building.
- Individuals who come to the municipal building after hours in search of a police officer or other municipal service may use special telephones located beneath blue beacons immediately outside the Police Department lobby and the front door of the municipal building. These phones automatically connect with county dispatch so that callers are assisted.

This transition has been planned with great care and consideration to its impact on Township residents. Township and County officials are confident that this partnership will deliver the highest level of service while minimizing any inconvenience to our community. We look forward to hearing from residents about any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,



Capt. Robert Palmer
Police Director

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