



City of Grand Junction, State of Colorado

Proclamation

- Whereas,** the City of Grand Junction is elevating the status of its 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatchers to First Responders in a move that outpaces a similar effort on the national level; and
- Whereas,** the City of Grand Junction chose not to wait for the 9-1-1 Saves Act that is stalled in Congress to give our 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatchers the classification of First Responders that they have earned and deserve; and
- Whereas,** the City of Grand Junction is recognizing April 12th through April 18th, 2020 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week; and
- Whereas,** all Grand Junction Regional Communication Center 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatchers are trained in emergency medical dispatch qualifying them to offer a variety of potentially lifesaving instructions including CPR, bleeding control, childbirth and airway maintenance over the telephone until paramedics arrive on the scene; and
- Whereas,** in 2019, Grand Junction Regional Communication Center 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatchers handled 306,302 phone calls, 144 text-to-9-1-1 messages, and dispatched 285,111 law, fire, and EMS incidents. They gave medical assistance to 3,120 callers and provided reassurance to more than 1,500 callers involving subjects contemplating suicide. Six Grand Junction Regional Communication Center telecommunicators were also recognized for their roles in saving the lives of six people who suffered cardiac arrest.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Merrick Taggart, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim from this day forward,

“Grand Junction Regional Communication Center 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatchers are hereby elevated to the status of First Responders”

in the City of Grand Junction and thank all our Emergency Dispatchers for their service to this community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 15th day of April, 2020.

Mayor