Washoe County 911 recovery estimated to be $1.78M a year
January 21, 2016
Washoe County – Challenges Uncovered

Data shows service providers are under billing and collecting 911 surcharges by an estimated $1.78M annually.

• 911 Boards and districts are unable to uncover the under billing practice, providers have sole possession of data.

• Intended fairness between residential customers and business customers compromised

• Creates an uneven playing field in vital communications marketplace between those who bill correctly and those who do not.

• Support for high growth area.

Vision: Increase 911 funding and sustain Next Gen 911 by enforcing existing 911 laws ensuring accurate reporting and collection of all 911 surcharges.
Expert Discovery Services (EDS)

- *provides* specialized consulting, audit and revenue discovery services
- *has* extensive experience in auditing telephone provider adherence to state 911 statutes
- *end result* is enforcement of existing 911 statutes ensure integrity and provide a long-term revenue stream to help operate 911 systems

EDS Clients

- *represents* 40% of the US population in jurisdictions throughout 15 states.
- *shows* only 46% of 911 Wireline & VoIP surcharges on average are remitted each year in jurisdictions represented.
- *execution* of existing 911 statutes could raise as much as $1 billion a year nationally to help fund daily operations and Next Gen 911.
Expert Discovery Services:

- Focused on businesses with large numbers of **wireline** (traditional and VoIP) telephones in place.
- Created a methodology to extrapolate data from a variety of sources to recreate the telecom landscape for any jurisdiction.
• EDS estimates service providers only collect 50% of the surcharges mandated by law.

• The largest discrepancies are VoIP providers. VoIP continues to dominate the market.
Washoe County – Next Steps

“Everybody that is part of the 911 call completion process – from the ILECs to the software vendors – needs to bear their fair share of the responsibility to make sure that the most important call any of us will ever make goes through.” FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler

Where we go from here is clear and simple:

◦ Audit fee billing and collection data for Washoe County to uncover under collections.

◦ Recover under collections to further fund Next Generation 911 technology and support the tremendous expected growth in the area.
Washoe County – Next Steps

Paperwork, Fees and Timeline:

◦ Expert Discovery works on a contingency basis. 40% of recovery which includes all expenses, work performed by audit teams and legal support. No taxpayer funds are needed for the audit.

◦ Approval of a Non disclosure agreement and contract are required to move forward.

◦ Expert Discovery requires remittance data from the county as soon as possible to refine estimates. We will work with providers to obtain all other needed data.

◦ Timeline for recovery varies and is dependent upon cooperation of the service providers, generally six months to 18 months.