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MEDIA RELEASE

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For More Information

Dawn Catanzaro 708-203-3745

VILLAGE CONSOLIDATES EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER Move Will Enhance Capacity and Save Costs

FRANKLIN PARK Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen announced today that the Village will consolidate its 911 Emergency Dispatch Center to a single location within the Village creating enhanced Emergency Medical Dispatching assistance and a substantial cost savings to the budget.

“As a result of this consolidation, we are now able to provide our residents with dispatchers who have been certified to provide first aid advice, over the phone,” stated Police Chief Michael Witz. “This service will provide valuable, time saving information when residents call during an emergency situation, which is when they need it the most.”

“We made this consolidation a priority because we knew it would provide valuable assistance to our residents,” said Mayor Barrett Pedersen. “It also allows us to utilize modern equipment and to phase out old equipment that has become very expensive to maintain and replace. We estimate it will save the Village nearly \$200,000 per year on personnel and support.”

The Village is working on this project in partnership with Norcomm which is Illinois’ first private, 911 call center that serves police, fire and emergency medical dispatch for many villages and fire protection districts. Norcomm provides state-of-the-art equipment and facilities and responds to emergency calls for their clients. When calls are received, Norcomm then dispatches first responders to the emergency and provides ongoing logistical support to responding personnel.

“Consolidation of emergency communications to the Norcomm Center is extremely cost-effective for our Village because it provides the opportunity for communities like Franklin Park to utilize new equipment and sophisticated software applications which we would not be able to afford on our own,” said Pedersen.

This consolidation will take place on Wednesday May 23, 2012 at approximately 8 AM. As part of the consolidation, the Police Department will also be changing the non-emergency phone number to 847-678-2444.

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