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PRESS RELEASE

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**WELD COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS
RECEIVES UPGRADE**

WELD COUNTY, CO – Weld County Public Safety Communications received a substantial improvement this morning at 4:00 a.m. when the County successfully activated a new 800 MHz Simulcast System for dispatch, police, fire and EMS first responders.

The Simulcast System, for which Weld County has paid \$3.9 million to date, provides four additional communication channels, beyond the previous eight channels, and supplies a stronger signal inside buildings to first-responders.

“This is great news,” said Weld County Commissioner Chairman William Garcia. “The county has continually invested in the infrastructure and tower system for our public safety communications, and today’s event is one more example of the county’s dedication to providing high-quality services in the county.”

Now, instead of information from dispatchers to first responders being relayed from one tower, the Simulcast System enables that information to be relayed from three towers and allows first responders to utilize a total of 12 communication channels.

“With the additional channels available on the Simulcast System, we are actually able to handle more radio traffic which will decrease the ‘busy’ signals first-responders sometimes receive when radio traffic is high. That alone, will increase the safety of the first responders,” said Mike Wallace, Director of Weld County’s Public Safety Communications.

“We especially thank Congressman Cory Gardner and his staff for assisting the county in requesting the additional channels from the Federal Communications Commission,” said Weld County Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer.

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