

911

saves lives

Vote *YES* Dec. 8

E 9-1-1- FACT SHEET

An election is to be held throughout Love County on December 8, 2009

- In Love County last year, calls to 911 triggered an estimated 2,500 dispatches for emergency assistance from fire, police, and ambulance.
- Currently 911 calls do not provide the location of the caller. Some landlines may supply caller i.d. All 911 calls require directions. Inadequate directions cause delays.
- At times, it is impossible for landline callers, due to age, illness, or trauma, to give driving directions. (Driving directions are required in case of rural route or highway contract addresses).
- Cell phone calls often do not route to the right county and do not supply caller i.d. It takes three times as long for the dispatcher to obtain the needed information from a cell phone caller, most of whom cannot clearly articulate where they are.
- Enhanced 911 Technology is available to upgrade Basic 911 so that the . . .
 - Name, phone number, and 911 address of landline callers, and
 - The map location of cell phone callers Pop up on a computer screen in front of the emergency dispatcher. Even if the caller says nothing, help can be dispatched.
- Unnamed streets and roads would be named and house numbers will be established. Rural route and highway contract postal addresses will give way to 911 addresses. Residents will have delivery of FedEx and UPS packages to their 911 addresses.
- 911 address and map location will be displayed to the 911 dispatcher, along with the name of the fire/police/EMS that should respond. Response time will be decreased, saving lives and property.*
- A positive vote on both proposals is needed to upgrade our 911 answering and provide computerized maps to our dispatchers.
- A positive vote on landline 911 will result in a service fee (approximately \$2.50 residential/\$5.50 business) on landline phone bills to cover the improvements of an enhanced 911 system.
- A positive vote on wireless 911 will result in a 50-cent service fee on cell phone bills to cover the expense of improving the enhanced 911 system to handle emergency calls from cell phones.
- The 911 fees collected are placed in a state-audited fund. The state mandates that the county spend these funds only on 911. Implementation is expected to take up to 36 months, beginning with mapping/addressing, followed by landline upgrades and cell phone upgrades.

****Please give your Love County volunteer fire department, ambulance, and law enforcement the ability to reach you quickly with life-saving services!*** For more information, contact Toni Peery, E911 Planning Committee Chair, (580) 276-5333 or Tracey Smithwick, Emergency Management Director, (580) 276-5861. See complete information at www.mercyhealthlovecounty.com.