

911 Telephone Line Surcharge Increase

Potential Impacts to a Business

During the 2017 State of Nevada Legislative Session, Senate Bill 176 (NV SB 176) was passed, amending Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 289.930 to require uniformed peace officers who routinely interact with the public to wear portable event recording devices (body-worn cameras) while on duty. The City of Winnemucca, and Humboldt County have subsequently initiated portable event recording device programs within each of their respective law enforcement organizations. The portable event recording device programs were required to be in place and operational no later than July 1, 2018. With NV SB 176, the 2017 Legislature also amended NRS 244A.7643 to allow for the use of the 911 telephone line surcharge revenues for the purpose of paying the costs associated with the acquisition and maintenance, storage of data, upgrade and replacement of equipment and software necessary for the operation of the portable event recording devices and vehicular event recording devices or systems that consist of both portable event recording devices and vehicular event recording devices.

Currently, the 911 telephone line surcharge is \$0.25 per month for each customer access line to the local exchange of telecommunications provider, \$0.25 per month for each telephone number assigned to a customer of mobile telephone service (including VoIP service), and \$2.50 per month for each customer trunk line to the local exchange of telecommunications provider. Revenue from the current 911 surcharge fund is placed into a special revenue fund ("911 Enhancement Fund") administered by Humboldt County. Currently, the money in the 911 Enhancement Fund is used to improve the 911 dispatch center for reporting an emergency in Humboldt County.

As Authorized, by NRS 244A.7643, as amended by NV SB 176 (2017), the Humboldt County Board of County Commissioners may consider increasing the 911 surcharge up to \$1.00 per month for each customer access line to the local exchange of a telecommunications provider, up to \$1.00 per month telephone number assigned to a customer of mobile telephone service (including VoIP service), and up to \$10.00 per month for each customer trunk line to the local exchange of a telecommunications provider. The surcharge increase would help recover one-time and ongoing costs associated with implementing portable event recording device programs at each of the local law enforcement agencies. This business Impact Statement is being initiated, as required by NRS 237.030 through 237.150 to assess the potential impact to business operations or the formation of new businesses if the 911 surcharge is increased.

Proposed 911 Surcharge Increase

Any increase of the 911 surcharge would be authorized by and follow the guidelines specified in NRS 244A.7643, as amended by NV SB 176 (2017). If increased, the surcharge would be set to an amount within the following range:

1. \$0.25 up to \$1.00 per month for each access line to the local exchange of a telecommunications provider.
2. \$0.25 up to \$1.00 per month for each telephone number assigned to a customer of mobile telephone service (including VoIP service).
3. \$2.50-\$10.00 per month for each trunk line to the local exchange of a telecommunications provider.

This is potentially an increase of up to \$0.75 per access (land) and mobile line and up to \$7.50 for trunk lines.

Revenue collected as a result of the increase is only to be used for enhancements to the 911 emergency systems or the portable event recording device (body worn and vehicle mounted cameras) programs at the City of Winnemucca Police Department and the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office.

Per NRS 244A.7645, with respect to the 911 dispatch center for reporting an emergency, the 911 surcharge revenue may only be used for:

- Improving the 911 dispatch center computer hardware, software and licensing for reporting an emergency in the county.

With respect to purchasing and maintaining portable event recording devices and vehicular event recording devices, 911 surcharge revenue may only be used for:

- Paying costs associated with the acquisition, maintenance, storage of data, upgrade and replacement of equipment and software necessary for the operation of portable event recording devices and vehicular event recording devices or systems that consist of both portable event recording devices and vehicular event recording devices.

If revenue from the 911 telephone line surcharge exceeds the costs associated with improving the 911 telecommunication system and the portable event recording device programs, the 911 fund may, as authorized by NRS 244A.7645, as amended by NV SB 176 (2017), accrue to a balance of \$500,000. If the funds exceed \$500,000 at the end of any fiscal year, the board of county commissioners shall reduce the amount of the surcharge imposed during the next fiscal year by the amount necessary to ensure the unencumbered balance in the fund at the end of the next fiscal year does not exceed \$500,000

Business Impact Reporting

In accordance with Nevada law, Humboldt County must notify business owners and trade association members likely to be impacted by an increase of the 911 telephone surcharge. You are encouraged to provide any comments, arguments or data to Humboldt County if you believe an increase in the 911 surcharge will:

- Impose a direct and significant economic burden upon your business; or,
- Directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of your business.

Any comments, arguments or data should focus on the potential impacts of the proposed 911 line surcharge increase on a business. This information will be included within the business impact statement to be considered by the elected officials prior to any action to approve a 911 surcharge increase.

Written Comments, arguments or data must be submitted no later than fifteen (15) working days after the first publication of this notice or by **FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2019** to:

Postal Mail (post-marked on or before FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2019) to Humboldt County, Attn: County Manager/re: 911 surcharge, 50 W Fifth Street, Winnemucca, NV 89445

Fax: 775-623-6302 – Cover Page, Attn. 911 Surcharge

Workshops:

Humboldt County will host two public workshops to discuss the potential impacts of the proposed surcharge increase on businesses in the region. You are invited to attend these workshops to ask questions, and to provide comments, arguments or data on the potential impacts of the proposed 911 surcharge increase.

Date: TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019

Time: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Date: THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2019

Time: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Location: Humboldt County Courthouse Meeting Room 201, 50 West Fifth Street, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445.