

**RESOLUTION NO. 404 -2015, TO ENSURE ADEQUATE FIRE
AND RESCUE RESPONSE SERVICES FOR SUFFOLK
COUNTY RESIDENTS**

WHEREAS, ensuring public safety is a critical function of Suffolk County government; and

WHEREAS, fire dispatchers are trained professionals who are essential to providing an appropriate response to fires and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, certain budgeted positions within County government become vacant and can remain unfilled, while others are so sensitive and important to protecting the public that they must be filled immediately; and

WHEREAS, the County must have an adequate number of fire dispatch employees to receive distress calls and dispatch fire, rescue and emergency responders to assist County residents; and

WHEREAS, despite the vital role fire dispatchers play in ensuring the public's safety during emergencies, 6 of the 50 budgeted positions are vacant in the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, historically, the fire dispatch budget incurs increased overtime and other staffing issues arise when two (2) vacancies of the 50 budgeted positions exist; and

WHEREAS, action must be taken to ensure that current and future vacancies in these positions are filled immediately; now, therefore be it

1st **RESOLVED**, that the Commissioner of the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services ("FRES") shall notify the Presiding Officer of the County Legislature and the Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, in writing within thirty (30) days, when 10% or more of the budgeted Fire Dispatcher positions in the Department are vacant, and explain why the positions are being held open; and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, that at the time the Commissioner provides this notification, he or she shall also provide an action plan that details how the Department plans to operate until such time as the vacancies are filled; and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: May 12, 2015

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: May 28, 2015