

HCCA to Participate in 911 Cell Phone Bank

In May of 2004, the 911 Cell Phone Bank was created to provide an ongoing and readily available source of 911 cell phones and funds to meet unexpected and urgent needs of participating law enforcement and affiliated victims services agencies.

Since then the 911 Cell Phone Bank has generated hundreds of thousands of dollars and provided thousands of cell phones for victim's services organizations nationwide. RMS Communications (Ocala, Florida) has successfully relieved the operational burden of managing a 911 cell phone program from the participants.

The 911 Cell Phone Bank is a nationwide program designed to maximize community cell phone donations. To best accomplish this the 911 Cell Phone Bank has turned to RMS Communications, one of the nation's largest cell phone recyclers.

Since the inception of the cell phone, thousands of different models from scores of manufacturers have been produced and with each new year comes hundreds of additional models. For the layman, distinguishing the value of donated cell phones is impossible, but it is the business for experts such as RMS.

Generous donors are well wishers. Their desire is that the receiving organization gets the most value out of their donation. RMS's knowledge of the cell phone market allows them to determine how your cell phone donations can be maximized; providing 911 cell phones and funds for participating organizations.

By donating your cell phone you are doing more than just providing emergency communications for someone in need. You are helping to provide funds that support the activities of law enforcement and victim's services organizations nationwide.

In HCCA's membership area the following organizations are directly involved in the 911 Cell Phone Bank program:

- Arlington County Sheriff Office
- City of Manassas Park
- Culpeper County Sheriff
- Designers Insurance Agency (d/b Allstate in selected counties)
- Fauquier County Sheriff Office
- Justice Federal Credit Union in Chantilly
- King George Sheriff Office
- National Association of Triads (Alexandria)
- NOVA (Alexandria)(National Organization of Victims Assistance)
- Orange County Sheriff Office
- Prince William County Sheriff Office (Manassas)

- Stafford County Sheriff Office
- WIFLE (Women in Federal Law Enforcement)
- The National Sheriffs Association

Key points of importance:

- No cost to the HCCA or member firms
- HCCA will generate funds to be used for our own charitable endeavors
- Link on www.hcca.net will be provided for anyone to print postage-paid label to send old cell phones to the 911 program office
- HCCA will consider hosting “collection” drives (e.g., at dinner meetings) where phone will be boxed and shipped (postage paid)
- All phones will be purged, reconditioned, and modified so that they can be used to only call 911. Phones that are too badly damaged will be safely scrapped.
- Phones will only be distributed free through law enforcement offices to senior citizens, the poor, and abused individuals who will not have to pay monthly service charges.
- HCCA Connection – Janice McIlvoy’s sister is Administrator for the 911 Cellphone Bank charity.