



## FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

### **CUMBERLAND COUNTY'S EMERGENCY RADIO SYSTEM GETS MAJOR UPDATE.**

The Cumberland County emergency radio communications system which all emergency services operate on recently went through some major changes. These changes have required the Lake Tansi Police Department to acquire all new equipment as our old equipment would not work with the new system. This change was expensive, but it much better enables emergency services to communicate between all emergency agencies and works much better than the old system. These changes were made during the month of May. Following, you will see a press release that was sent out by the Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency.

To: Citizens of Cumberland County and Local Media Outlets

From: Crossville/Cumberland Co. EMA, Crossville/Cumberland Co. Emergency Communications District, Cumberland Co. Sheriff's Office, Crossville Police Dept., Cumberland Co. Fire Dept., Crossville Fire & Rescue, Cumberland Co. EMS, Fairfield Glade Police Dept., Fairfield Glade Fire Dept., Lake Tansi Police Dept., and Cumberland Co. Rescue Squad

When our new P-25 radio system was installed in 2016 Crossville and Cumberland Co. emergency departments were limited on the capabilities that we were able to use on the system due to some older equipment that had to be phased out as budgets allowed. The outdated equipment has now been phased out and the time has come that we are able to utilize 100% of our system capabilities with a programming update.

In addition to the new programming, and to keep our first responders and patients' safe while working emergency scenes and protecting our citizens most sensitive information, we will be enabling an encryption feature during the programming process. Doing so will prevent scanners and scanner applications from broadcasting radio traffic and putting this information into the hands of people who can use it to do harm to our responders and citizens.

While we understand that this will be an inconvenience to some, we feel that this is a necessary action to better serve our citizens. As a group, we are committed to providing the best possible service to our community in a timely manner.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Anthony Brown, Chief of Police