

# NEWS RELEASE

**Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Summit County dispatch staff honored with Gold Star Awards**

**SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**—County Executive Ilene Shapiro is pleased to announce members of Summit Emergency Communication Center (SECC), the largest 9-1-1 dispatch center in the county, and members of the Executive’s Department of Public Safety were recently honored with Gold Star Awards by the Ohio chapters of the National Emergency Number Association (OENA) and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (OAPCO). SECC Director David O’Neal was named Director/Manager of the Year and 9-1-1 Coordinator Michael Banks was named Coordinator of the Year. Additionally, the County’s Radio System Administrator, Michael Szabo, was nominated for Information/Radio Frequency Technologist of the Year.

“I am so proud of our dispatch team and all they have accomplished since we opened the SECC last year. Emergency communications require all members of the team to perform at the highest levels each and every day to save lives. These awards are a testament to the great work underway at the County’s newest and largest dispatch center,” said Executive Shapiro.

OENA and OAPCO developed the Gold Star Awards program to honor outstanding individual and team performances that occur while the individual or group of telecommunicators are on duty. The awards recognize the important contributions public safety professionals make to the safety and well-being of communities throughout the state, publicly honor the individuals who serve as the backbone of Ohio's 9-1-1 systems.

Learn more about the Gold Star Awards at <https://www.ohionena.org/ohio-gold-star-award-program>.

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