



For Immediate Release
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E9-1-1 Institute Honors Fairfax County 9-1-1 Director

The E-911 Institute in Washington, D.C., has named Steve Souder, director of emergency communications for Fairfax County, Va., as the winner of the 2006 award for a Government Leader.

Souder has more than 20 years of experience with 9-1-1 administration, not only in Fairfax County but in other jurisdictions in the Washington, D.C., area, coordinating communications through such tragedies as airplane crashes, including the Sept. 11, 2001 crash into the Pentagon, and the horrific sniper incidents in and around Washington in 2002.

Souder is being recognized not only for his work in Virginia, but also for his work nationally with the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO). As the head of APCO's Project RETAINS, Souder developed extensive research on issues regarding recruitment, training and retention of 9-1-1 personnel. That work is now being used by public-safety managers around the country.

Gregory L. Rohde, executive director of the Institute, said: "Steve is a wonderful example of someone who is a leader at home and is willing to share his time and talents with the 9-1-1 community at large. He is broadly recognized as an inspiration in his field."

The award will be presented at a March 8th ceremony in Washington, D.C.

About the E9-1-1 Institute. The E9-1-1 Institute (www.e911institute.org) is a not-for-profit organization which provides administrative and policy support to the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. Gregory L. Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, serves as the E9-1-1 Institute's Executive Director.

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