



INVESTING IN THE COMMUNITY & JOB CREATION

SERVING CITIZENS DURING DISASTER: PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX OPENS

The new Public Safety Complex (PSC) opened, under budget and on time, on July 11, 2013 with a ceremonial first call, ribbon cutting and tours of the primary work spaces within the 100,000 square foot, \$47.5 million facility.

The PSC is the new home for public safety professionals from a variety of key public safety agencies and operations, including the Consolidated Dispatch Agency (CDA), Leon County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Leon County Emergency Operations Center, Tallahassee Fire Department Administration, and the City's Transportation Management Center. During normal business hours, 140-150 employees will work in the building. As several work functions require 24-hour staffing, more than 30 people will regularly be in the facility outside of business hours. During an emergency activation, the PSC's population will grow to between 350-400 people. The building's flexible and forward-thinking design will accommodate any future staffing increases.

Public safety dispatchers for all services now work together in the same facility under the CDA. This helps ensure that, when assistance is needed, the closest and most appropriate unit – whether it be Fire, Police, Sheriff or EMS – will be sent. In emergencies, those seconds will help save lives. The Public Safety Complex is located at 911 Easterwood Drive, directly adjacent to the roundabout at Weems Road and Easterwood Drive near the American Red Cross building. The state-of-the-art facility will be able to withstand winds from a Category 3 hurricane or F4 tornado.

The total project budget was \$47.5 million. Roughly \$30 million was invested in construction and \$7 million in information technology, with the remaining dollars being spent on engineering design, furnishings, etc. Approximately 86% of construction dollars were kept in the local economy. The project's construction team was spearheaded by Ajax Building Corporation and Construction Support Southeast, a joint venture. More than 25% of the project was completed by certified Minority-Owned Business Enterprises or Women-Owned Business Enterprises. During construction, an average of 150 people worked on-site each day.

The Public Safety Complex is an investment in the health and safety of the community, as well as an investment in the local economy.

