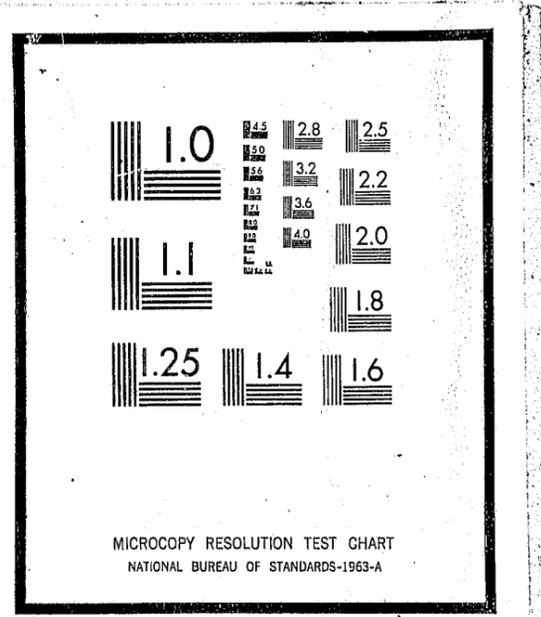


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R-76-103

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## LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION POLICE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Mercer County, Ohio; Feasibility of a Centralized  
Records and Communication Center

REPORT NUMBER: 75-101

FOR: Mercer County, Ohio, Sheriff's Department  
 Mercer County Population: 35,265 (1970)  
   36,903 (1974 est.)  
 Staff Strength (Sworn): 17  
   Total: 22  
 County Area: 471 Square Miles

CONTRACTOR: Westinghouse Justice Institute

CONSULTANT: Philip D. DeWitt

CONTRACT NUMBER: J-LEAA-003-76

DATE: January 23, 1976

32198

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Foreword

This request for technical assistance was made by the Mercer County, Ohio, Sheriff's Department. The requested assistance was concerned with evaluating the feasibility of a centralized records and communication center.

Requesting Agency: Mercer County Sheriff's  
Department, Sheriff  
W. C. Sunderhaus

State Planning Agency: Ohio Department of Economic  
and Community Development,  
Administration of Justice  
Division, Mr. Bennett J. Cooper,  
Deputy Director  
Mr. Roger Allton

LEAA Region V: Mr. Spencer C. Hendron, State  
Representative -- Ohio  
Mr. Terrence Doherty, Police Specialist  
Mr. V. Allen Adams, Regional Administrator

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Mercer County is a principally rural farm and recreation area in Northwestern Ohio. It has a year-round population of almost 37,000 and has, perhaps, a million seasonal visitors. The Sheriff's Department is the largest law enforcement agency in the County. It was this office that requested technical assistance.

By national standards, Mercer County has a relatively low incidence of Index crimes, but generally surpasses the crime rates of nearby, similar counties (see Table 1-1 and Appendix A). Two factors that influence this are: The Indiana state line on one County boundary (with frequent youthful traffic because of the lower Ohio drinking age); and the number of vacation homes in the area, which are targets for burglary and lesser criminal acts.

The generally small size of the County's communities and their dispersion in the rural area (see Figure 1-1) tends to increase the visibility of the Sheriff's operations. To date, the Sheriff's office has been the local agency dealing with State and Federal law enforcement programs (although this may change) and has been the recipient of grants that have enabled the acquisition of communications equipment that is now shared by all law enforcement agencies in the County.

The Sheriff's Department has submitted three preapplications for further assistance from the Ohio Administration of Justice Division. The requested funds would be used for:

- Countywide central dispatch.
- Communications.
- Computerized recordkeeping.

The grants applications, with minor modifications, have been placed into an "approved-hold" category by Ohio's Administration of Justice Division (AJD); but the likelihood of awards based upon those applications is remote within the current fiscal year.

Among reasons for the AJD's hesitancy is that the Mayors and Police Chiefs of Mercer County will soon meet with the Sheriff and County officials to discuss the formation of a Joint Law Enforcement Council (see Figure 1-2). Two topics will certainly arise in their early meetings: First, the benefits of cooperative planning; and second, the need for a central facility, dealing principally with communications between agencies. Thus, the outstanding grant applications appear best viewed and considered for award within the context of the plans developed by the proposed Joint Law Enforcement Council.

The Sheriff had sought technical assistance for a number of years. The general desire, as stated in the request, was for a feasibility review of a centralized records and communication center that would incorporate the elements of the three outstanding grant preapplications.

The Consultant visited Mercer County and met with the following personnel:

- W. C. Sunderhaus, Sheriff.
- J. Gilmore, Chief Deputy.
- R. Allton, Ohio AJD.
- J. E. VanMeter, General Telephone.
- R. Klosterman, Chairman County Commission.
- G. Bihn, County Commissioner.
- R. Dicke, County Commissioner.

The objectives developed for this study became: To assess the communications needs of Mercer County for emergency services; to capture and crystalize several perceptions of how a joint council might function; to review the technical merit of the three existing preapplications; and to develop a document which might focus conversation in the first charter meeting of the proposed council. The time available to the Consultant did not permit exhaustive treatment of that entire scope of work, but the discussion which follows should form a base for further planning by the local agencies.

TABLE 1-1

## Index Crimes, Mercer County (1974 UCR)

<u>Crime Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate/100,000</u>
Total, Index Crimes	794	2,151.6
Violent Crime	27	73.2
Property Crime	767	2,078.4
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	1	2.7
Forcible Rape	1	2.7
Robbery	6	16.3
Aggravated Assault	19	51.5
Burglary	244	661.2
Larceny (\$50 and over)	486	1,317.0
Auto Theft	37	100.3

MERCER CO. OHIO

0 1 2 3 4 mi.

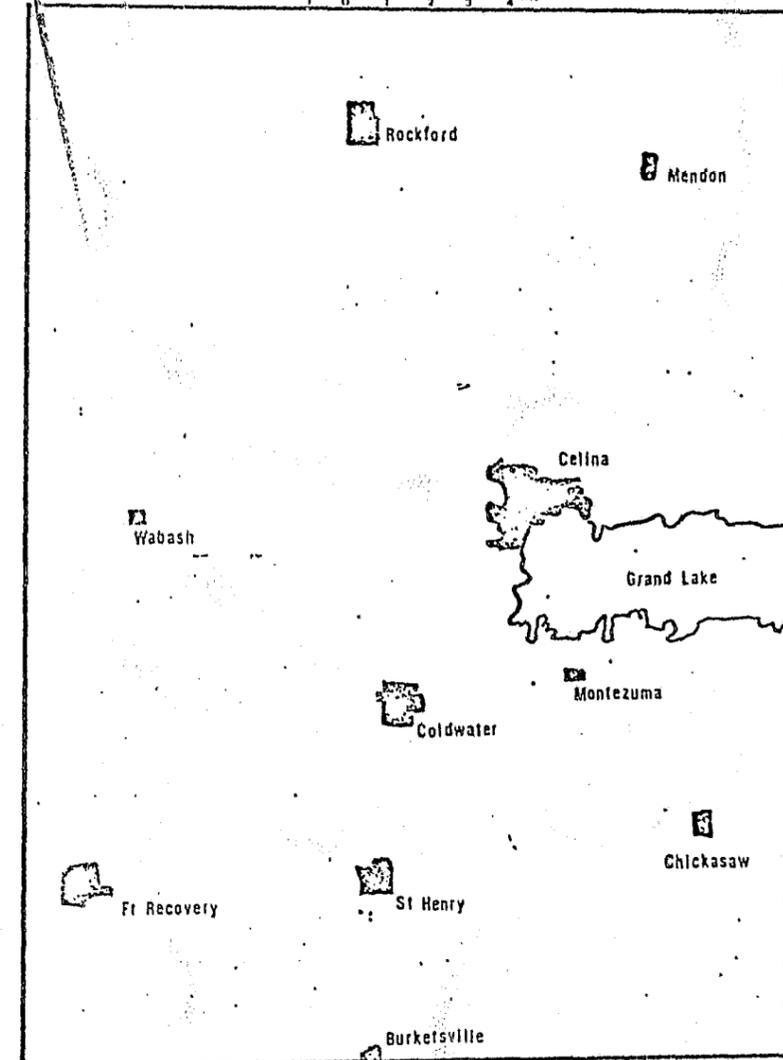


Figure 1-1. Approximate Map of Mercer County and Some Municipalities



W. C. SUNDERHAUS

PHONE 506-7724

CELINA - OHIO - 45822

November 25, 1975



**Mercer Co. Statistics**

POPULATION 39,288  
1970 CENSUS  
AREA 471 SQ. MI.  
14 TOWNSHIPS  
86 CHURCHES  
1 MAJOR SEMINARY  
22 INDUSTRIES  
1 AIRPORT  
3 HOSPITALS  
1 BRANCH UNIVERSITY  
8 HIGH SCHOOLS  
4 PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
2 MUSEUMS  
CELINA  
PT. RECOVERY

**Highways**

STATE 202.17 MILES  
TWP. 434.00 MILES  
COUNTY 399.67 MILES

**Railroads**

PENN. CENTRAL  
ROANOKE & WESTERN

**Streams & Lakes**

GRAND LAKE  
17,500 ACRES  
EL. 970 FT.  
WABASH RIVER  
ST. MARYS RIVER  
BEAVER CREEK  
MILE CREEK  
BIG BLACKCREEK  
TWELVE MILE CREEK  
COLDWATER CREEK

**Towns & Villages**

CELINA 7778  
COLDWATER 2533  
PT. RECOVERY 1346  
ROCKFORD 1207  
ST. HENRY 1278  
RENDON 872  
MONTESUMA 240  
BUNKETTSVILLE 278  
CHICKSAW 316

Dear

As you know, in the past five years, growth and social changes in our country demands improved county law enforcement operation.

I have a plan to modernize criminal justice procedures, and still maintain local government independency.

I am requesting your cooperation in joining our county enforcement program to create a Mercer County Joint Law Enforcement Council.

I propose to create a council composed of the Mayor or Chief of Police of each participating governmental unit, one individual appointed by each city council or township trustee, the Sheriff, and one member of the Mercer County Commissioners, along with any other interested citizen from any unincorporated communities.

The council, under the supervision of a chairman, will make initial recommendations for their local law enforcement and criminal justice programs that could be county-wide in nature and responsibility.

The council will be empowered to recommendations as per hiring, training, acquiring equipment and property necessary for law enforcement functioning. The council can also apply for state and local funds (LEAA) via the Sheriff.

I feel that this is a "mist" program, and I will greatly appreciate your participation. I plan to hold a feasibility meeting with the mentioned people on Wednesday, January 14, 1976 at 8:00 PM in the Mercer County Court House Auditorium, in Celina, Ohio.

Enclosed you will find an addressed, stamped, post card. Please acknowledge on the card whether you "will" or "will not" be attending this meeting, and mail it to me at your earliest possible convenience.

Sincerely yours,  
*W.C. Sunderhaus*  
W.C. SUNDERHAUS, Sheriff  
Mercer County

Figure 1-2. Letter Sent by Sheriff to Mayors and Chiefs of Police in Mercer County

## 2. UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEM

The original request for technical assistance was limited to a feasibility study of a centralized records and communication center. Involved in this centralization would be an emergency toll-free county-wide telephone number, centralized dispatching, and computerized records.\* This mission was generally followed during the study but was somewhat broadened to consider certain implications of the formation of a Joint Law Enforcement Council.

The areas focused on by the Consultant are identified in the following paragraphs. They are analyzed and recommendations made in subsequent sections.

### 2.1 Joint Law Enforcement Council

The law enforcement agencies of Mercer County now have no formal mechanism for joint planning, coordinated program execution, or speaking with a single voice (except through the Sheriff's Department) when asking for Federal or State assistance.

The Sheriff has asked that a charter meeting of a potential Joint Law Enforcement Council convene on January 14, 1976. The Council is seen by him as the most direct approach toward developing comprehensive county-wide programs and also deemphasizing his department as the single spokesman for grant applications and similar activities. The autonomy of the local agencies would not be lessened in any way by the proposed Council.

It has been suggested that the communications and dispatching "problem" described below be one of the first topics addressed by the new Council.

### 2.2 Communications and Dispatching

Response time for an emergency situation is a most critical factor. Elements influencing response time include:

- The citizen must contact an appropriate agency to summon assistance. This is sometimes a problem in Mercer County and is discussed below.
- A unit must be assigned the problem by some kind of dispatching function. This too is discussed below.

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\* From letter, August 6, 1975, from B. J. Cooper, Ohio AJD, to S. C. Hendron, LEAA.

- A unit must travel to the scene. This component of response time is apparently not a significant problem in Mercer County.

The most common method for citizens to make a complaint or to summon aid is by telephone. From time to time, this is somewhat of a problem in Mercer County. Several aspects of the problem are:

- Some of the local agencies have small staffs, so a call to the listed number may go unanswered because the officer(s) on duty may be away from the station.
- A call may be made to the wrong jurisdiction.\* While the misdirected call can be straightened out, it can add to the frustration of a distraught citizen.
- The caller may not know to use the Sheriff as the "number of last resort" when contact cannot be made by phone with the local jurisdiction (the Sheriff may be able to establish radio contact with the local police or may dispatch a deputy).
- A caller may be discouraged by a toll charge and not phone the Sheriff's office for lesser complaints.

The County is served by three telephone companies (General, United, and Wabash), and the present rate structure imposes tolls upon many calls. The perceived need in the County is to have a single (preferably toll-free) number to call for emergency assistance. Moreover, the existence of this number should not preempt the right of the citizen to call a local jurisdiction's number if he chooses. The advantage of the central number would be a certain and perhaps faster response.

Radio plays an important role in public safety communications in Mercer County. All law enforcement vehicles in the County have mobile radios, some furnished by the Sheriff's Department. The radios are used to avoid toll charges for communications with outlying areas and are sometimes the

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\* In the Celina telephone book, for example, more than twenty numbers are listed for both fire and police. Of these, roughly ten each are in Mercer County. This certainly confuses visitors and often the local residents.

only way to establish contact with a local police unit when a call has come in from its jurisdiction.

2.3 Computerized Records

This area is a comparatively lesser concern in Mercer County today. A plan for computer utilization has been developed and a preapplication for funds submitted to Ohio's AJD. The proposed system would reduce the manual efforts required for data entry and information retrieval, integrate some information from police courts and correctional agencies, and generally extend the capabilities of whatever central communications function is developed.

3. ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEM

3.1 Joint Law Enforcement Council

A rigorous analysis of the proposed Joint Law Enforcement Council was not possible, for at this writing no meeting has yet taken place. The author would be remiss, however, not to present some items for consideration and discussion at the charter meeting, or series of meetings, beginning January 14, 1976.

The Anoka County (Minnesota) Joint Law Enforcement Council has been proposed by Sheriff Sunderhaus as a model, or starting point, for Mercer County's charter deliberations. A synopsis of Anoka County's organization is provided below:

- The Council is composed of the chief of police of each participating government unit, and one additional individual is appointed by each City Council. The sheriff and a representative of the county commission also sit on the council.
- The county commissioners appoint two other members, one to represent unincorporated areas and the other to represent incorporated areas with police departments having fewer than six full-time officers.
- The Council appoints a chairman.
- The Council undertakes research and makes initial recommendations for law enforcement and justice programs that are countywide in nature and responsibility, or that could be carried out more efficiently if undertaken collectively rather than separately.

An analogous structure and general mission would seem to serve in Mercer County. The details of membership for Mercer County are best left to the consensus of the meeting of January 14.

Conjecturally speaking, it appears that the attendees of the charter meeting(s) will need to address the following major topics:

- Organization -- The eventual number of Council members and how they are chosen, the goals and objectives of the Council, and its powers and responsibilities.

- Procedures -- When/where/how to meet, terms of office, reimbursement (if any to be provided), filling vacancies, voting, procedures for admendment, and similar matters.
- Matters of Interest -- Arguing against a general council is akin to fighting motherhood or apple pie. Such a council is a plain vessel that must be filled not only with good intentions but also given a port to sail to. Restated, the purpose of forming a council is not to have meetings, but to see words turned into action. One issue that should be of immediate interest to council members, and with which they may learn to work together, is that of a central communications facility -- an issue covered generally by this report.

### 3.2 Communications and Dispatching

The Sheriff's Department today acts as the major switchboard for law enforcement communications in Mercer County. Approximately 35 percent of the Sheriff's telephone and radio communications are in support of the municipal police functions (see Appendix B). The Sheriff's office is connected to fire and burglar alarms in a number of establishments. The Sheriff also has a computer terminal linked to LEADS/OHIO CJIS.

The Sheriff has requested funds from the Ohio AJD to establish a central communication center, much like the one formed in Fulton County, Ohio, which is a similar county.

The center would be implemented under the auspices of the Joint Law Enforcement Council. It would be established in a facility outside the Sheriff's Department, yet incorporate his radio/computer/alarm equipment and be connected to a new countywide telephone system that would provide a central emergency number.

The proposal appears to have conceptual merit. Several questions were raised in this study about the details of implementation:

- What sites might be chosen and what factors should be considered in making a choice?
- How could the center be staffed?
- What options are open for the telephone network?

- What timetable for implementation would synchronize with the grant application/award cycle?

There are several locations in the County Courthouse that may be adequate for locating the center. Other sites may be nominated by the Joint Law Enforcement Council. Factors bearing upon the choice of locations are:

- Rental/purchase costs (if any).
- Remodeling expenses.
- Vulnerability -- Some safeguards against hostile intrusion/interruption will be necessary.
- Size -- The facility must house the communications equipment, provide work-space, an area for records storage, and sufficient space for later growth.
- Environmental control -- The location chosen should not preclude eventually controlling temperature and humidity.
- Equipment relocation expense -- The costs of moving equipment to the new center and reconnecting them (to the Sheriff's radio tower, for example).

It has been proposed that the communications center be staffed by new personnel and supported largely by a grant from the Ohio AJD. Funds for such a purpose are generally available. This would free one Sheriff's deputy per shift and correspondingly increase the number of personnel available for law enforcement and public safety field duty. The method of personnel selection and salaries for the communication center staff have not yet been addressed and should be considered by the Joint Council.

The telephone system posed the major problem for the communication center. Options considered were:

- A 911 single-number system.
- An 800 (WATS) system.
- Toll-free direct circuits from each exchange.

- An Enterprise number.
- An ordinary phone system, but possibly with an intercept in the billing cycle to create a toll-free equivalent.

The telephone options are contrasted and a preliminary recommendation is set forth in Sections 4 and 5 of this report.

Approximate milestone dates for an implementation plan are outlined below. These are recapitulated and expanded in Section 5.

- January -- Joint Council meets, communication center.
- February -- Preapplication to Ohio AJD due.
- May -- Preliminary approval given by AJD.
  - Telephone directory listings close (General Telephone).
- August -- Telephone directory issued.
  - Interim phone system for center in operation.
- November -- Grant received.
- November/December -- Personnel selected, changeover to new communication center.

### 3.3 Computerized Records

All of the forms in use by the Sheriff's Department were reviewed. In general, paperwork could be moderately reduced with some minor redesign of the forms. Unless the recordkeeping of the local police departments were to be integrated by a central system, it is not burdensome enough today to make automation cost-effective. This may become a more distant discussion topic for the Joint Law Enforcement Council to consider.

#### 4. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Depending upon one's viewpoint, the technical assistance rendered Mercer County may have come at a fortunate or unfortunate time -- fortunate because it may clarify some issues for the impending first meeting of the Joint Law Enforcement Council and unfortunate because the future remains clouded behind that first meeting.

##### 4.1 Joint Law Enforcement Council

The Consultant is enthusiastic about the promise of such a planning/coordination group. The attitude among potential participants appears to be generally positive, with a healthy dose of skepticism. Because we are dealing with future events, no firm conclusions can be advanced. Offered below are some concepts that may prove helpful and lead to a well-functioning Council.

- Establish immediately some sense of purpose for the group. This will include not only long-range goals, but also some short-range projects that can instill confidence and a sense of accomplishment in the participants.
- Work towards written rules of procedure. The example from Anoka County will serve as a good point for discussion and development to begin.
- Sort out the powers and responsibilities of the new Council, and negotiate all areas where-in the participants feel a threat of encroachment.
- Adopt some regular meeting place and acquire some part-time secretarial assistance. The County Commission and other participants should consider modest appropriations to support the Council.
- Move to create its own image and identification and not be considered the stepchild of any existing agency. Media coverage should be welcomed and citizen involvement encouraged.

Perhaps the concepts presented may seem too obvious to bear offering. Yet, it was the Consultant's impression that some of the proposed Council participants viewed the formation of the Council as thinly veiled power-play by the Sheriff's Department. The successful formation of a Joint

Law Enforcement Council may well rest upon the Sheriff's ability to convince them otherwise. Adherence to such concepts as those outlined may diminish many concerns.

#### 4.2 Communications and Dispatching

There is a need in Mercer County for a central communications facility. That role is partially filled today by the Sheriff's Department. It is a role that the Sheriff would willingly yield to the Joint Law Enforcement Council for management. Pressing issues to be considered by the Council are presented below.

- Site -- The location of the facility must be chosen. As this is written, the location, by default, appears to be within the Court-house complex. Other sites, as may be suggested by the Council, should be considered.
- Staff -- Personnel costs may be covered by funding from the Ohio Administration of Justice Division. An application for these funds is necessary. How these personnel are to be hired and paid is another topic for Council consideration.
- Equipment -- There is no immediate need for additional radio equipment, although more portable units would be useful. A computer for managing the center's records might be readily justifiable, once operations are in place. The telephone system offers some major options that are treated separately below.

##### 4.2.1 Telephone System

The major guidelines set forth for the center's telephone system were:

- The creation of a single countywide emergency number to supplement existing listings.
- That it be a no-cost or low-cost feature throughout the County for users.
- That it be an affordable system to operate.

Options considered for the communication center were:

- 911 -- An increasingly common system for emergencies but one with high costs for systems installation and one requiring great coordination among the three phone companies.
- WATS -- The toll-free 800 number to call, cheap for the user, fairly expensive for the law enforcement agencies. The user would need to dial an eleven digit number to be connected.
- Direct Circuits -- The user always dials what appears to be a local number but is then routed through directly. It is high in cost, is very vulnerable to line damage, and requires a different number in each foreign exchange.
- Enterprise -- Relatively easy to use, but necessitates operator intervention. Places a burden upon operators; phone company reluctant to assume. Depending upon calling location in County, may go through operator as far away as Lima; probability of something going wrong reasonably high.
- Standard -- An ordinary Celina exchange number from some foreign exchanges requires dialing an eight digit number (e.g., 1-486-6661). Typical toll charge, when required, less than 20 cents (from Ft. Recovery).
- Standard (no charge) -- Same as standard, but phone company reverses charges as bills are computed, creating equivalent of toll-free number. Requires special effort by phone company.

These options are summarized in Table 4-1.

An additional consideration is that by August 1976 the subscribers of United and Wabash Telephone Companies will be able to call Celina toll-free. After that date, the toll consideration applies only to those areas

TABLE 4-1

Comparison of Some Telephone System Options

<u>Option</u>	<u>Ease of Use</u>	<u>Cost to Operate</u>	<u>Probability of Error</u>	<u>Vulnerability in Disaster</u>	<u>Cost/Difficulty of Implementation</u>	<u>Cost to User</u>
911	Easy	Unknown	Low	Low	High	None
WATS	Complex	High	Moderate	Low	Low	None
Direct Circuits	Moderate	High	Moderate	High	Moderate	None
Enterprise	Easy	Unknown	High	Low	Low	None
Standard	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Nominal
Standard (No-Charge)	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	None

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shown in Figure 4-1. Each of those areas is serviced by General Telephone, making either of the last two options worthy of some consideration.

The approximate monthly cost, under the standard option, for service with three incoming rotary (kick-down) numbers and two unlisted numbers for outgoing calls would be roughly \$80/month after the first month. The additional cost of the no-charge option (if available) is unknown. This, or a similar phone configuration, should provide sufficient incoming capacity to handle the probable load with only a remote chance of a caller reaching a busy signal.

#### 4.2.2 Dispatching Function

For its initial stages, at least, the proposed communication center will assume a dispatching rôle no more powerful than that exercised presently by the Sheriff (i.e., the Sheriff does not assign or dispatch units not his own; his office merely facilitates communications). If, at some future time, the confidence of the Joint Law Enforcement Council in the operations of the communication center grows, the center may be asked to take on full dispatching responsibilities. That capability remains to be proven.

#### 4.3 Computerized Records

The potential employment of a computer for law enforcement assistance in Mercer County appears to lie in the future. The need for (and utility of) such a system is probably linked directly to the progress of the proposed Joint Law Enforcement Council.

TOLL AREAS (shaded) AUGUST '76

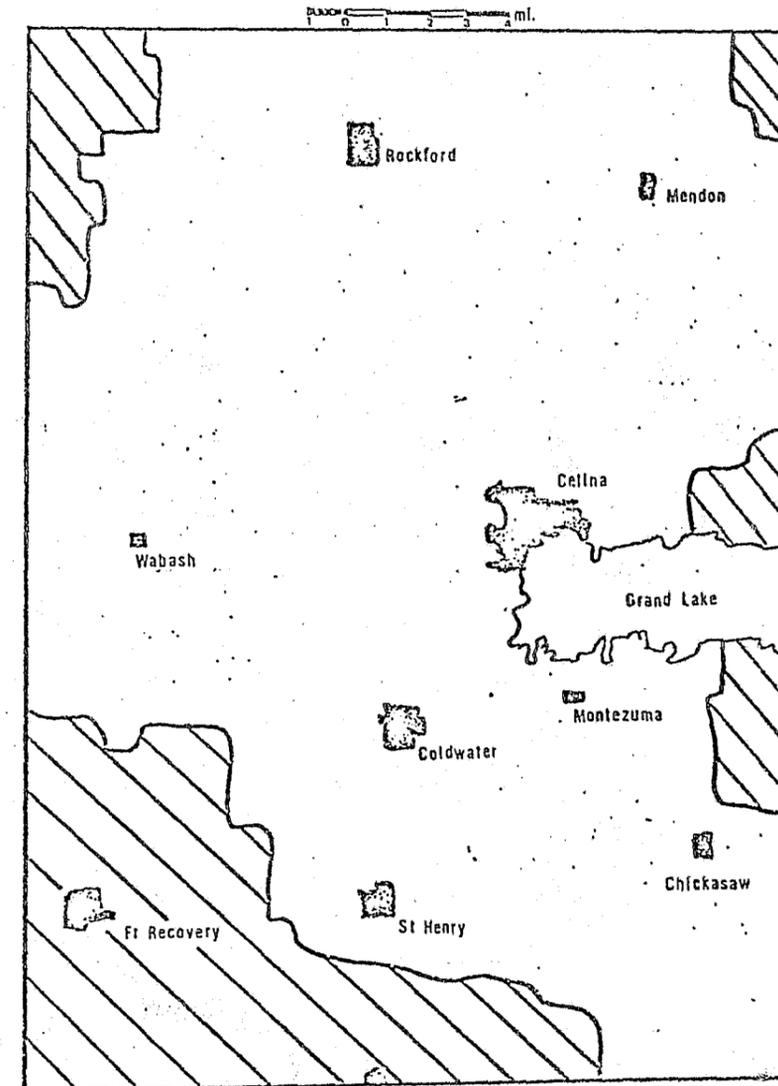


Figure 4-1. Map of Telephone Toll Areas

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 General Recommendations

- A Joint Law Enforcement Council be formed.
- A central communication center be established.
- Employment of a computer be delayed until a plan for its utilization can be developed in a countywide program for law enforcement.

### 5.2 Specific Recommendations

- The communication center be placed within the Courthouse, unless other viable candidate locations are offered.
- The current preapplications, soon to expire, be reviewed by the Council; and a single, unified preapplication be prepared expeditiously to renew Mercer County's request for funds.
- The Council adopt a simple solution (the "standard" option) for the communication center's telephone system.
- The Council consider unified, central efforts (photo and crime laboratory, facsimile transmission equipment, etc.) that will expand upon resources currently available.

### 5.3 An Action Plan

It is presumptive to guess at the decisions to be reached by a body never before convened. With the best available data, however, the following rough chronology seems appropriate.

- January 14, 1976 -- Charter meeting of Joint Law Enforcement Council. Tentative decision to proceed with Council formation. Goal definition. Division of representatives into major task forces. Review of immediate business (grant application renewal).
- Late January -- Council input for grant application. Report of task forces.

- February 6, 1976 -- Grant preapplication due in Columbus.
- March -- Budget information supplied to Councy Commission for renovation and possible interim operation of communication center.
- May -- Tentative approval of grant application. Coordination with phone companies to obtain listing in August directories.
- July -- Have prepared draft of Council Charter. Establish hiring and pay policy for proposed communication center. Take bids for renovation.
- August -- Center's number if listed. Have at least one phone in interim location.
- September -- Initiate steps leading to recruitment of center personnel.
- November -- Grant received. Contract for renovation awarded. Center staff recruitment accelerated.
- December -- Change over to new communication center.

APPENDIX A

1974 UCR Data for Mercer County and Nearby Counties  
(Ohio Administrative Planning District I)

ADMINISTRATIVE PLANNING DISTRICT I

FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORT - 1974

COUNTY	POPULATION	INDEX CRIMES	RATE PER 100,000	MURDER	MAN- SLAUGHTER	RAPE	ROBBERY	BURGLARY	LARCENY	ASSAULT	STOLEN AUTOS
ALLEN	109,708	5,153	4,697.0	6 5.5	2 1.8	13 11.8	156 142.2	1,279 1,165.8	3,407 3,105.5	102 93.0	190 173.2
ASHLAND	44,000	747	1,697.7	2 4.5	0	4 9.1	4 9.1	216 490.9	442 1,004.5	36 81.8	43 97.7
AUGLAIZE	40,303	837	2,076.8	1 2.5	0	4 9.9	16 39.7	253 627.7	508 1,260.4	18 44.7	37 91.8
CRAWFORD	51,604	1,693	3,280.7	0	0	0	17 32.9	476 922.4	1,077 2,087.0	42 81.4	81 157.0
DEFIANCE	36,503	1,292	3,539.4	2 5.5	1 2.7	1 2.7	17 46.6	319 873.9	833 2,435.4	12 32.9	52 142.5
ERIE	77,305	3,003	3,884.6	4 5.2	1 1.3	14 18.1	90 116.4	909 1,046.5	1,889 2,443.6	107 138.4	90 116.4
FULTON	35,000	552	1,491.4	1 2.9	0	1 2.9	2 5.7	188 537.1	288 822.9	18 51.4	24 68.6
HANCOCK	62,704	2,121	3,382.5	1 1.6	0	7 11.2	29 46.2	546 870.8	1,353 2,157.8	84 134.0	101 161.1
HARDIN	36,602	851	2,610.3	0	0	5 15.3	5 15.3	290 899.5	403 1,236.1	95 291.4	53 162.6
HENRY	28,802	778	2,701.2	2 6.9	1 3.5	4 13.9	12 41.7	196 680.5	519 1,802.0	15 52.1	30 104.2
HURON	49,498	1,177	2,377.9	0	0	2 4.0	15 30.3	274 553.6	801 1,618.2	30 60.6	55 111.1
KNOX	42,503	1,260	2,964.5	0	0	11 25.9	10 23.5	334 785.8	778 1,830.5	82 192.9	45 105.9
MARION	65,605	3,130	4,771.0	3 4.6	1 1.5	11 16.8	33 50.3	660 1,006.0	2,219 3,382.4	87 132.6	117 178.3
MERCER	36,903	794	2,151.6	1 2.7	0	1 2.7	6 16.3	244 661.2	486 1,317.0	19 51.5	37 100.3

APD I

FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORT - 1974

COUNTY	POPULATION	INDEX CRIMES	RATE PER 100,000	MURDER	MAN- SLAUGHTER	RAPE	ROBBERY	BURGLARY	LARCENY	ASSAULT	STOLEN AUTOS
MORROW	23,502	581	2,472.1	0	0	0	4 17.0	186 791.4	362 1,540.3	13 55.3	16 68.1
OTTAWA	37,393	1,035	2,767.9	1 2.7	1 2.7	6 16.0	18 48.1	298 796.9	622 1,663.4	29 77.6	61 163.1
PAULDING	20,101	399	1,985.0	0	0	1 5.0	4 19.9	129 641.8	231 1,149.2	15 74.6	19 94.5
PUTNAM	32,602	334	1,024.5	0	1 3.1	3 9.2	3 9.2	139 426.4	154 472.4	15 46.0	20 61.3
RICHLAND	135,600	4,979	3,671.8	6 4.4	0	19 14.0	88 64.9	1,434 1,057.5	2,960 2,182.9	268 197.6	204 150.4
SANDUSKY	63,204	1,438	2,275.2	1 1.6	0	6 9.5	36 57.0	406 642.4	864 1,367.0	64 101.3	61 96.5
SENECA	60,904	1,935	3,177.1	3 4.9	0	2 3.3	14 23.0	390 640.4	1,433 2,352.9	36 62.4	55 90.3
VAY WERT	30,502	659	2,160.5	4 13.1	0	1 3.3	13 42.6	165 540.9	406 1,331.1	18 59.0	52 170.5
WILLIAMS	34,402	1,059	3,078.3	0	0	3 8.7	8 23.3	241 700.5	729 2,119.1	35 104.6	42 122.1
WOOD	96,507	2,086	2,161.5	0	1 1.0	14 14.5	34 35.2	602 623.8	1,275 1,321.1	53 54.9	108 111.9
WYANDOT	22,202	561	2,526.8	0	0	2 9.0	8 36.0	158 711.6	345 1,553.9	21 94.6	27 121.6
TOTALS	1,273,959	38,424	68,927.3	38 68.6	9 17.6	135 236.8	642 962.4	10,232 18,685.3	24,440 43,556.6	1,317 2,356.6	1,620 2,916.69

APPENDIX B

Summary of Communications Activity  
Mercer County Sheriff's Department

R-76-103  
B-1

There has, to date, been no need for a formal analysis of radio or telephone communications traffic for the Sheriff's Department. In an attempt to gather an impression of the volume and types of user, a brief analysis of the radio log was conducted. The week of December 9 - 15, 1974, was chosen. Fourteen Sampling periods were used:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Hour(s)</u>
1	12/9	0800 to 1000
2	12/9	2200 to 2300
3	12/10	1000 to 1200
4	12/10	2300 to 2400
5	12/11	1200 to 1400
6	12/11	0000 to 0100
7	12/12	1400 to 1600
8	12/12	0100 to 0200
9	12/13	1600 to 1800
10	12/13	0200 to 0400
11	12/14	1800 to 2000
12	12/14	0400 to 0600
13	12/15	2000 to 2200
14	12/15	0600 to 0800

The sample structure will not be defended for elegance, but for the purposes of rough measure was used to construct a composite, "average," 24-hour period.

All entries in the radio log were used for the sample periods. Thus, raw data for all oncoming and outgoing radio messages (unit calling/called, time of day, etc.) and equivalent data for telephone calls (also entered in log) were available. The raw data are not reproduced here for reasons of space. One presentation of the data follows:

Composite Day, December 1974

Telephone Calls - In	43
Telephone Calls - Out	10 (known to dispatcher)
Radio Calls - In	57
Radio Calls - Out	20
Telephone/Radio in or out for another jurisdiction	48 (34.8% of Total)

These numbers stand as reasonable daily averages when compared with the Sheriff's monthly activity report for the same month, December 1974 (see Appendix C).

APPENDIX C

Mercer County Sheriff's Department  
Monthly Activity, December 1974, and Annual Summary

R-76-103

C-1

Mercer County Sheriff's Department  
 Activity Report  
 for Month of December 1974  
 and Yearly Totals for 1974

	<u>December</u>	<u>Totals 1974</u>
Telephone Complaints . . . . .	1,188	13,741
Personal Complaints . . . . .	594	7,344
Legal Papers Served . . . . .	28	449
Accidents Investigated . . . . .	36	345
Accidents to O.S.P. . . . .	10	126
Arrests . . . . .	32	343
Traffic Warnings . . . . .	35	397
Court Appearances . . . . .	42	511
Breaking and Enterings . . . . .	11	154
Theft Complaints . . . . .	19	259
Vandalism Complaints . . . . .	12	163
Fraudulent Checks . . . . .	1	150
Domestic Complaints . . . . .	7	109
Juvenile Complaints . . . . .	2	127
Littering Complaints . . . . .	2	7
Drug Offenses . . . . .	5	27
Offenses Against Persons . . . . .	0	12
Alleged Rapes . . . . .	0	2
Alleged Homicide . . . . .	0	1

	<u>December</u>	<u>Totals 1974</u>
Self Inflicted Gun Shot Wound . . . . .	0	2
Accidental Shootings . . . . .	0	2
Suicides . . . . .	0	3
Missing Persons . . . . .	5	62
Fatal Hunting Accidents . . . . .	0	1
Fatal Farm Accidents . . . . .	0	4
Fatal Industrial Accidents . . . . .	1	1
Fires (Traffic Control) . . . . .	0	21
Bomb Threats . . . . .	0	3
Stolen Vehicles . . . . .	0	21
Armed Robberies . . . . .	0	1
Assists to Motorists : . . . . .	30	200
Funeral Escorts . . . . .	0	27
Hospital Requests for Blood . . . . .	9	42
Institution Trips . . . . .	1	32
Special Assists to Other Departments . . . . .	4	80
Jail Tours Conducted (Open House Held in June) . . . . .	2	26
Sheriff Sales . . . . .	1	4
Talks to Civic Organizations . . . . .	3	31
Meetings Attended . . . . .	3	12
Schools Attended . . . . .	0	13

	<u>December</u>	<u>Totals</u> <u>1974</u>
Prisoners Processed (Total) . . . . .	63	550
Adult Male Prisoners . . . . .	55	470
Adult Female Prisoners . . . . .	0	25
Juvenile Male Prisoners . . . . .	6	40
Juvenile Female Prisoners . . . . .	2	15
Meals Served . . . . .	895	7,478
Miles Driven . . . . .	13,903	148,600
Miscellaneous Complaints (All Other Than Listed) . . . . .		110

**END**