

## LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Brian L. Martin Sheriff / Coroner

August 27, 2018

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to express our support for the continued placement of cell sites throughout Lake County. Public Safety agencies now rely heavily on wireless communications in the county, and we have noticed that cell & data speeds in many areas of the county are far below reliable standards, and in some areas, nearly non-existent. My own residential cellular service in the incorporated area of the County is one of those areas with nearly non-existent coverage. As the Undersheriff for the Sheriff's Office, I'm on call 24/7 so being accessible in emergencies has always been an issue. In addition, I am the Deputy Director of Emergency Services for Lake County and often times deal with natural disasters and report to the County's Emergency Operations Center. With the limited cellular service in Lake County, needless to say, public safety suffers tremendously, when the first responders have inadequate cellular service.

I have had the privilege to work side by side with Verizon teams, and have seen firsthand their commitment to serve our residents and first responders during the Rocky, Jerusalem, Valley and Clayton Fires of 2015 and 2016, the Winter Storms of 2017, the Sulphur Fire in 2017 and the Mendocino Complex Fires in 2018. Verizon Wireless consistently goes above and beyond to assist in any way they can.

As earlier mentioned the public safety agencies in Lake County rely on cell phone and high speed data communications for command and control during fires, to contact crime victims, witnesses and reporting parties, as well as remote in ambulance patient monitoring in route to Emergency Rooms. We also rely on high speed data communications for our in car computer systems. It seems that the vast majority of 911 calls are now made on cell phones. The need for a reliable, survivable high speed wireless infrastructure throughout Lake County is vital and I strongly support the placement of cell sites in and around the county.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Respectfully

Chris J. Macedo Undersheriff County of Lake