

PRESS RELEASE

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HANOVER TOWNSHIP ENHANCED 911 SYSTEM OFFERS PUBLIC IMPORTANT NEW SAFETY FEATURE

Citizens often ask, “Why can Uber find me but 9-1-1 can’t?” The simple answer is that apps like Uber use several features built into your smart phone, while the current 9-1-1 system uses a system based on cell-tower triangulation. This most often happens when emergency callers are inside a building. Furthering our commitment to the safety and security of the residents and visitors to Hanover Township, the Hanover Township Police has recently added a new feature to its cutting edge 9-1-1 system that was installed in November 2017. This feature is called RapidSOS.

RapidSOS is a free app that users can download to their phones. If the user calls 9-1-1, the app automatically sends enhanced location information to emergency dispatchers to help refine the location of the caller. The app uses GPS, WiFi access points, Bluetooth Beacons, Barometric Pressure, as well as gyro sensors and accelerometers that all are built into their smart phone. The application then fuses all this data together, and seamlessly transmits it to the 9-1-1 center to provide the most accurate location information for emergency responders. The app then updates the 9-1-1 dispatchers with location changes automatically every few seconds. All of this information is plotted on a map in front of the emergency dispatcher so that they can update emergency responders in real time. In an emergency, all of this information is transmitted without any extra effort from the caller or the dispatcher.

“How can I get it?” Simply download the free “*RapidSOS Beacon*” app from your App Store or Google Play Store and grant the permissions. That’s it!

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Thank you,

Chief Mark D. Roddy

Township of Hanover Police Department