



# STATE OF IOWA

KIM REYNOLDS  
GOVERNOR

IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY  
BRADY CARNEY, DIRECTOR

ADAM GREGG  
LT. GOVERNOR

**TO: Members of the General Assembly**

**FROM: Brady Carney, Director, ILEA**

**SUBJECT: 80B and 80F Public Safety Telecommunicator Uniformity**

## **Background:**

This request is to clarify the definition of “communications officer” as stated in Iowa Code chapter 80F. If the term communications officer is to mean the same as a Public Safety Telecommunicator, then there is a lack of clarity and uniformity in current laws (80B and 80F) for the same profession: Public Safety Telecommunicator. The Peace Officer Bill of Rights (Iowa Code 80F) mentions “communications officer,” but the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (Iowa Code 80B) defines and outlines the profession as public safety telecommunicator.

## **Proposed Solution:**

Iowa Code chapter 80B governs the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Specifically, section 80B.11C covers Public Safety Telecommunicator Training Standards. Specifically, this provision defines a public safety telecommunicator as “a person who serves as a first responder by receiving requests for, or by dispatching requests to, emergency response agencies which include but are not limited to law enforcement, fire, rescue, and emergency medical services agencies.”

Meanwhile, Iowa Code chapter 80F governs Peace Officer, Public Safety and Emergency Personnel Bill of Rights. Specifically, Iowa Code section 80F.1(f) defines what “officer” means while naming several professions. One of the professions named is “communications officer” while “public safety telecommunicator” is not named. Given the list of professions named in section 80F.1(f) and the definition of Public Safety Telecommunicator from section 80B.11C, one can only assume “communications officer” is meant to designate public safety telecommunicator to be included and covered in the Bill of Rights.

The change will provide clarity for the profession as to who is included and covered by chapter 80F and will provide uniformity across Iowa code sections (80B and 80F).



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## Requested Language Iowa Code section 80F.1(1)(f):

“Officer” means a certified law enforcement officer, fire fighter, emergency medical technician, corrections officer, detention officer, jailer, probation or parole officer, ~~communications officer~~ **public safety telecommunicator**, or any other law enforcement officer certified by the Iowa law enforcement academy and employed by a municipality, county, or state agency.

Thanks for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brady Carney".

**Brady Carney**

Director

IA Law Enforcement Academy

515.331.5766

***Professionalism Through Training***