



Chatham County Board of Commissioners

124 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31401

STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

June 24, 2019

Statement from the County Manager in Reference to Gentleman Stranded on I-95

I would like to thank the Good Samaritan, Ms. Lisa Quanstrum, who stopped to assist a gentleman on I-95 last Saturday. I would also like to thank her for making Chatham County aware that there was a concern.

Upon review of the incident, we have identified what happened and have put procedures in place, as of today, to minimize this type of incident from occurring. Our 911 operator, followed protocol that indicated that police officers are not dispatched for incidents where a driver has locked their keys in their car. As of today, the new protocol will require police officers to be dispatched to incidents where drivers have locked their keys in the car and there is a safety issue, such as, being stranded on a major thoroughfare or a child or animal is locked in a vehicle.

The Chatham County 911 Communications Center, a standalone civilian operated department in the County, dispatches 911 calls for all police, fire and EMS services in Chatham County. In this case, the 911 Center did not dispatch any agency. Social media posts and comments have questioned the lack of response by the Chatham County Police Department and the Chatham County Sheriff's Department, however, neither agency would have been notified as the call would have been dispatched to another police agency.

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