



Chief of Police
Joan N. Kent

78 Belle Ville Lane

P.O. Box 730

Warsaw, Virginia 22572

Phone: 804-333-3737

October 30, 2019

To: Charles R. Walsh, Jr
Executive Director
Middle Peninsula Northern Neck CSB

Dear Chuck,

I was disappointed when the Tappahannock RASC site closed. But now, I am really saddened by the fact that Kilmarnock site has closed as well. Warsaw Police Department is now dependent upon the Gloucester RASC which is a greater traveling distance for us. If the Gloucester site is overrun with consumers or closed, then once again we are on our own to transport for medical clearance and then to whatever location where a bed is found. This is a great burden for a small department of five that sometimes has only one person working a shift. Even with the Alternative Transportation Program set to launch in 2020, the officer will still be responsible for the consumer until a TDO is issued. Medical clearance can take anywhere from 1 to 5 hours and even then, it is my understanding that Police will have to take over 50% of the transports because the consumer will not meet the criteria for alternative transportation. I am in support of the hybrid CIT program that is currently being discussed. If we have local CIT trained LEO's on call to come out and meet officers at local hospitals when the Gloucester site is closed, it will surely reduce some of the stress and burden for law enforcement agencies with limited resources. Warsaw Police Department appreciates the efforts by the MPNN CSB in educating law enforcement officers. My whole department is CIT trained and it has truly made a difference on how we view and deal with a person in crisis.

Sincerely,

Joanie Kent