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Northumberland County

To: Charles R. Walsh Jr., LCSW

Executive Director

Middle Peninsula Northern Neck CSB

From: Captain Ashby Allen

Subject: CIT RASC Kilmarnock Closing

Date: 10/10/2019

Mr. Walsh,

I am writing you to express our concern in the decision to close the Kilmarnock RASC site on September 30, 2019. I cannot speak for the surrounding jurisdictions, but I can say with certainty that our office will suffer greatly with the loss of this vital resource. Being a small agency with limited man/woman power, we rely on resources such as the RASC to help our agency with mental health consumers that pull deputies from their primary duties. Our office utilized the RASC site at every opportunity possible and it saves us a lot of money on our overtime alone. Our officer's moral dealing with individuals with a mental health or substance use crisis went up as well, due to them having a solution other than sitting in a hospital emergency room for hours waiting on some type of disposition to come from the CSB>

In order for our office to utilize a CIT/RASC facility now means driving an hour and fifteen minutes to Gloucester. The Northern Neck needs its own RASC center and has the consumer populous to sustain it. I hope that you and your team will be putting something in place to service our needs in Northumberland County as well as our neighboring jurisdictions.

In closing, I will say that the disappointment and hardship that has been laid out for us by losing this valuable resource is beyond words. Our hope is that there are future plans for a CIT / RASC center and possibly a temporary resource as a replacement to provide deputies here a place to turn to and consumers a clean, calm, and professional place to be when dealing with a crisis. Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashby Allen".

Ashby Allen

Captain