# *Local E911 Operator Wins International Recognition*

**Local News**

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Daytona Beach, FL—May 24, 2011– The Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International announced the 2011 Telecommunicator of the Year award to be presented to Richard Garman, Grays Harbor Communications E9-1-1, at APCO’s 77th Annual Conference and Exposition in Philadelphia, Pa. Garman developed the Grays Harbor mapping system by mastering Altaris GDI, rewrote Grays Harbor’s training program and mastered the CAD system. Garman is unfailingly professional when dealing with citizens, subordinates, peers and other entities. His agency heads, line supervisors and field units, frequently use him as a resource for CAD, procedural and mapping questions. Garman currently serves on the Homeland Security Region 3 GIS Mapping Committee. “Richard promotes teamwork, a positive attitude and fun on his shifts, while at the same time setting and adhering to strong standards of professionalism and doing what is right. He is a stickler for detail, and for making sure everything is done to the best of each person’s ability. Richard is the penultimate telecommunications professional,” said Peggy Fouts, Grays Harbor Communications E9-1-1 director.

APCO International President, Bill Carrow, said, “APCO applauds Richard Garman on being named Telecommunicator of the Year. His efforts exemplify the high standards of excellence of public safety practitioners and we are proud to give this honor to an individual so deserving.” Winners receive a fully paid trip including registration, travel expenses, and hotel accommodations to obtain their award at APCO’s 2011 Annual Conference. Recipients will also be featured in APCO’s magazine, *Public Safety Communications*. APCO presents seven categories of annual awards to public safety communications personnel who demonstrate the highest levels of personal and professional conduct and performance in the line of duty. Members or nonmembers of APCO submit public safety nominees who are reviewed by the Awards Committee and finalized by APCO’s Executive Committee. More information on the Awards and APCO’s Annual Conference is available on APCO’s website, http://apcointl.org. **About APCO International** APCO International is the world’s largest organization of public safety communications professionals. It serves the needs of public safety communications practitioners worldwide—and the welfare of the general public as a whole—by providing complete expertise, professional development, technical assistance, advocacy and outreach. http://www.apcointl.org/">www.apcointl.org.