

PRESS RELEASE

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Initial Northern Lancaster County Regional Policing Study Complete

In June 2010, elected and staff leadership of Clay Township, Ephrata Township, Penn Township and Warwick Townships formed a committee to explore the viability and benefits of developing a regional police department.

Subsequently, in August, representatives of Clay Township, Ephrata Township, Penn Township and Warwick Township commissioned an initial study to determine the feasibility of such a department.

The study was conducted by Carl Segatti, recently retired Chief of Police for the Northern York County Regional Police (NYCRP), and head of that department for 15 years. The NYCRP has served the people of Northern York County since 1976.

The study was designed to determine if a regional police department offered the Townships opportunities to:

- Maintain or improve police services
- Avoid duplication of services
- Improve delivery efficiency
- Reduce costs to the taxpayers

A draft of the study was presented in November, 2010. Subsequently, after review of the study, Ephrata Township made an informed decision to "opt out" of the proposed Regional Police Department. After the withdrawal of Ephrata Township, and further revisions, the study was finalized in January, 2011.

The findings of the study, now complete, indicate that the potential exists to achieve each of the stated objectives, and warrant further analysis of the viability of a regional police force.

During 2011, the participating Townships will more thoroughly evaluate regionalization's impacts on service levels, pension and overall costs, while petitioning the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for grants to offset initial implementation costs should they be incurred.

After this next phase of analysis has been completed, public meetings will be scheduled throughout the year in the participating Townships.

The committee thanks the members of each participating police department for their cooperation.