

[REDACTED]

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----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**RE: FW: [External] Fwd: Re: Fwd: 19-1213 - Public Record Media - HCSO Response 020620  
**Date:**2020-10-09 07:45  
**From:**Andrew Skoogman <Andrew.Skoogman@[REDACTED]>  
**To:**"mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org" <mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org>

Mike – I'm sorry for the delay. Answers in green below. Thanks, Andy

Q: How long after Sheriff Hutchinson took office did he change mind on encryption? Was there any one event that led him to do so?  
Sheriff Hutchinson listened to the advisory board and their recommendations and decided that they made a strong case for encryption. The most compelling of these reasons includes protecting the privacy of citizens. Information about medical conditions and what is happening at people's houses in respect to disagreements is routinely aired so that first responders are adequately prepared to help upon arrival. The sheriff doesn't believe the general public should have unfiltered information about people's private situations. He also doesn't believe it's safe to air law enforcement response to emerging situations. The Sheriff does not recall a specific incident or date on which he decided to move forward with encryption.

Q: The documents that HCSO released suggest that as far back as June 2017, the HCSO Dispatch Users Advisory Board was reporting that "70 percent of law agencies now encrypted." We assume that is referring to law agencies in Hennepin County; is that correct?

This is 70 % of law enforcement agencies that HSCO dispatches for, not the independent PSAPS/law

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enforcement agencies (Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, Edina, Richfield, Bloomington, Airport, Eden Prairie, U of M, Metro Transit). The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Users Advisory Board members represent departments that WE provide dispatching services for.

Q: The Advisory Board note summaries and minutes show encryption was, at one point, set to begin in April 10, 2019 at 0400 – roughly 3 months after sheriff took office. What led to the postponement? Did the sheriff play a role in the postponement? If so, what were his reasons?

This delay was caused by internal operational items that needed to be addressed before rollout. The delay was necessary in order to address these issues and ensure a smooth transition to the encrypted radio system.

Q: After assuming office, did Sheriff Hutchinson ever go to any Advisory Board meetings? Did he go to any before he was elected sheriff?

The Sheriff has not attended any Advisory Board meeting, nor did he prior to his election. The HCSO representative to the board has always been the Major in charge of the Enforcement Services (now called Public Safety Services) bureau.

Q: How long has Sheriff Hutchinson been employed by HCSO? What were his positions in the sheriff's office, previous to becoming sheriff?

The Sheriff became employed with the HCSO on January 7, 2019. He held no positions at this agency prior to becoming Sheriff.

Q: As early as 2016, according to meeting summaries and minutes, the Advisory Board was talking of cutting over to encryption in 2019. When did Sheriff Hutchinson first know this was in the works?

The Sheriff was aware that it was possible during the campaign but learned much more about it after becoming sheriff.

Q: How much – if any – communication was there with other Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis officials (other than those on the Advisory Board) that the county was moving toward encryption?

This topic was discussed at the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board Radio Technical Operations Committee Meeting. The Radio TOC meeting minutes are passed onto the board that has representatives from all metro counties and the city of Minneapolis.

Q: While some top county officials were quoted in the media as expressing surprise when encryption began, the Advisory Board meeting summaries and minutes show that an assistant county administrator was a regular attendee at the advisory board meetings. If this was the case, why did other top county/city officials not know?

This is a question best posed to the county officials

Q: Did Sheriff Hutchinson do any outreach to top city/county officials – such as the county board -- before beginning encryption? If so, when – and to whom? If not, was there a reason that did not happen?

The Assistant County Administrator was part of the board—he reports to county commissioners through the County Administrator

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**From:** mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org <mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 8, 2020 5:08 PM

**To:** Andrew Skoogman <Andrew.Skoogman@[REDACTED]>; mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org

**Subject:** Re: FW: [External] Fwd: Re: Fwd: 19-1213 - Public Record Media - HCSO Response 020620

Andrew Skoogman

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office --

Just circling back to see where things stand.

Mike Kaszuba

Public Record Media

On 2020-09-25 10:22, Andrew Skoogman wrote:

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Mike – Sorry for the delay !! I'll get you the answers today. Andy

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**From:** Jeremy Zoss <[Jeremy.Zoss@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:Jeremy.Zoss@[REDACTED])>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 10:19 AM

**To:** Andrew Skoogman <[Andrew.Skoogman@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:Andrew.Skoogman@[REDACTED])>

**Subject:** FW: [External] Fwd: Re: Fwd: 19-1213 - Public Record Media - HCSO Response 020620

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**From:** [mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org](mailto:mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org) <[mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org](mailto:mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 10:15 AM

**To:** Jeremy Zoss <[Jeremy.Zoss@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:Jeremy.Zoss@[REDACTED])>; [mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org](mailto:mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org)

**Subject:** Re: [External] Fwd: Re: Fwd: 19-1213 - Public Record Media - HCSO Response 020620

Jeremy Zoss

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office --

Just checking in, one more time.

