

**Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** May 6, 2019 – 6:15 PM (or immediately following Public Health & Social Services Committee)  
**LOCATION:** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairwoman Lynn Eckert  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Collins, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Nolan, Petit, Rodriguez & Wawro, Everett Erichsen, Deputy Director of Fire Services – UC Emergency Management/Emergency Communications, Sheriff Figueroa, Undersheriff Benjamin, Superintendent John, Warden Major Becker – UC Sheriff's Office, Public Defender Kossover – UC Public Defender, Deputy Commissioner Quesnell – UC DPW, Mr. Tom Kadgen – League of Women Voters, Michael Davis – UC 911 Center

Chairwoman Eckert called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

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**Motion No. 1:**                   **Moved to APPROVE the Minutes of the March 25 Special and April 1 Regular meetings**

**Motion By:**                   Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**                   None

**Voting In Favor:**           Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**Voting Against:**           None  
**Votes in Favor:**           5  
**Votes Against:**           0  
**Disposition:**           **Minutes APPROVED**

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Resolutions for the May 21, 2019 Session of the Legislature

**Resolution No. 174:** Appointing Member To The Ulster County Fire Advisory Board

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution appoints Peter M. Soule to the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board for a term commencing immediately and expiring on December 31, 2019.

**Motion No. 2:**                   **Motion ADOPT Resolution No. 174**  
**Motion By:**                   Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolutions ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 177:** Calling Upon The State Legislature To Adopt, And The Governor To Sign, The “Protect Our Courts Act” (A.2176 / S.425), In Order To Protect Certain Interested Parties Or People From Civil Arrest While Going To, Remaining At, Or Returning From The Place Of A Court Proceeding

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution calls on the NY State Legislature to adopt Senate Bill 425 and Assembly Bill 2176.

**Motion No. 3:** **Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 177**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Collins  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**  
Legislator Ronk stated that he did not support the Resolution or the state legislation and would reserve further comment for Legislative Session. Chairwoman Eckert asked if Resolution sponsor Rodriguez would like to speak. Legislator Rodriguez stated that he would also reserve comment for Legislative Session.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes & Heppner  
**Voting Against:** Legislator Ronk  
**Votes in Favor:** 4  
**Votes Against:** 1  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 187:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Counties Of Orange, Rockland And Sullivan For The Purpose Of Creating A Regional Partnership For Fire/Emergency Management – Fire Coordinator

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to enter into an agreement with Orange, Rockland and Sullivan Counties to form a regional partnership for Fire/Emergency Services in order to qualify for a NYS DHSES grant totaling \$35,000 for equipment and services.

**Motion No. 4:** **Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 187**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

Legislator Ronk asked Mr. Erichsen from the Department of Emergency Management/Emergency Communications if the partnership was an inter-county mutual aid plan. Mr. Erichsen responded that it was not exactly that and explained that there has been a consortium of the four counties for the past few years in order to qualify and apply for a NYS hazmat grant. He added that there is a better chance of qualifying for the grant as a consortium because the state favors multi-county partnerships. He informed the members that equipment, training and response assistance is shared among the counties. He stated that Ulster County will get \$35,000 for equipment purchase in 2019. Legislator Eckert asked if there was ever an instance where shared equipment was needed in two different counties at the same time. Mr. Erichsen responded that there has not occurred, but added that they are able to reach out to other counties in the state outside of the consortium for assistance when necessary. He explained that the consortium counties agree that purchasing the same, larger more expensive equipment is not an efficient, or cost effective, use of the grant.

<b>Voting In Favor:</b>	Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk
<b>Voting Against:</b>	None
<b>Votes in Favor:</b>	5
<b>Votes Against:</b>	0
<b>Disposition:</b>	<b>Resolution ADOPTED</b>

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**Resolution No. 188:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The State Of New York Office Of Information Technologies Services (“ITS”) For The Utilization Of The New York State Mass Alert Notification System (“NY-ALERT”) – Department Of Emergency Management

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute an agreement with the NYS Office of Information Technologies Services for use of the New York State Mass Alert Notification System, NY-ALERT, at no cost to the county.

<b>Motion No. 5:</b>	<b>Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 188</b>
<b>Motion By:</b>	Legislator Ronk
<b>Motion Seconded By:</b>	Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

Legislator Haynes asked if Mr. Erichsen could explain more about the system. Mr. Erichsen informed the members that NY ALERT is a mass notification system which sends out a text when there is an incident such as a weather event, sudden road closure or Amber Alert. He added that an individual needs to sign up for the services. He explained that the agreement allows the county to send Ulster County specific notifications/alerts to Ulster County residents who are in the New York system. He added that the county would have the ability to set the radius of the alert and can restrict the notice to a specific town if the entire county did not need the notification. Legislator Ronk encouraged Mr. Erichsen to come up with a plan to reach out to county residents to encourage them to sign up. Mr. Erichsen thanked him for the suggestion.

<b>Voting In Favor:</b>	Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk
<b>Voting Against:</b>	None
<b>Votes in Favor:</b>	5

**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 189:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Office Of Indigent Legal Services For The Statewide Expansion Of Hurrell-Harring – Office Of The Public Defender

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute an agreement with the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services for the purpose of Ulster County's participation in the distribution of Indigent Legal Services funds totaling \$9,978,825, for the period beginning April 1, 2018 and ending March 31, 2023.

**Motion No. 6:** Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 189  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

Public Defender Kossover explained that the resolution is to accept a grant over the next five years for public defense. He added that Hurrell-Harring was a lawsuit brought by the New York Civil Liberties Union against the state of New York on behalf of about nine counties for inadequate public defense. He added that Ulster County was not one of the nine. He informed the members that the statewide amount is about \$500 million. Legislator Rodriguez complimented Public Defender Kossover for his work on implementing changes to comply with the settlement. He added that the Office of Indigent Legal Services has committed to renewing the grant for an additional five years.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 190:** Instituting Compensation Parity And Authorizing Stipends For Participants In The Counsel At First Appearance ("CAFA") Program In The Office Of The Ulster County Public Defender And Amending The 2019 Ulster County Budget – Office Of The Public Defender

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution amends the 2019 UC Budget to accept \$82,549 in State Aid for participants in the Counsel At First Appearance ("CAFA") Program required as part of the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services, as part of its statewide expansion of Hurrell-Harring settlement funding.

**Motion No. 7:** Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 190  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:** None

Chairwoman Eckert thanked the Public Defender for attending.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 191:** Amending The 2019 Ulster County Budget To Appropriate Jail Phone Commissions Reserves For The Purchase Of A Body Scanner And An Updated Electronic Key Watch System – Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution amends the 2019 UC Sheriff's Budget to allocate \$167,151 in funds from the Jail Phone Commission Reserves to purchase a full body scanner and updated Key Watch System.

**Motion No. 8:** **Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 191**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

Legislator Haynes asked for an estimate of how much money was in the phone commission account. Major Becker responded that there was about \$300,000 currently in the account. Sheriff Figueroa explained that the scanner allows greater ability to identify contraband items, weapons, etc. made out of ceramic and other non-metallic items. He added that the scanner also provides a non-invasive method of screening inmates. Major Becker informed the members that there are no concerns with exposure to radiation. Sheriff Figueroa provided a document with additional information on the scanner (appended to these minutes.)

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 192:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Department of Homeland Security Port Security Grant– Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute a Department of Homeland Security Port Security Grant to secure up to 75% of the cost of a new boat for the Sheriff's Office Navigation Division.

**Motion No. 9:** **Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 192**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

Sheriff Figueroa advised the members that the overall cost of the boat is about \$400,00, but the county will only be paying \$32,000 toward the purchase. Legislator Ronk asked if a boat in the fleet is being retired. Sheriff Figueroa responded yes. Legislator Ronk complimented the Sheriff Office's marine and dive team and stated that they were one of the best in the state. Mr. Erichsen added that the emergency services throughout the county rely heavily on the Sheriff's Office marine unit.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk

**Voting Against:** None

**Votes in Favor:** 5

**Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 193:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Ulster County Board of Cooperative Educational Services To Provide A Deputy Sheriff As A School Resource Officer – Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute an agreement with BOCES to provide a Deputy Sheriff as a School Resource Officer in an amount not less than \$50,171 from September 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

**Resolution No. 194:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Onteora Central School District To Provide A Deputy Sheriff As A School Resource Officer – Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute an agreement with BOCES to provide a Deputy Sheriff as a School Resource Officer in an amount not less than \$97,018 from September 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

**Resolution No. 195:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Rondout Valley Central School District To Provide Two Deputy Sheriffs As School Resource Officers – Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute an agreement with BOCES to provide two Deputy Sheriffs as School Resource Officers in an amount not less than \$194,037 from September 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

**Motion No. 10:** **Motion to consider Resolution Nos. 193, 194 & 195 AS A BLOCK**

**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk

**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolutions BLOCKED**

**Motion No. 11:** **Motion to ADOPT blocked Resolutions**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

Legislator Ronk asked if there were any changes to the agreements and whether the school districts are happy with the arrangements. Sheriff Figueroa responded that everyone remains pleased with the service.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolutions ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 203:** Amending Capital Project No. 519 Ulster County Law Enforcement Center (UCLEC) Energy Upgrades – Amending The 2019 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Public Works

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 519 to allocated \$242,000 for the installation of a natural gas line to the UC Law Enforcement Center to allow for the conversion of facility boilers to natural gas.

**Motion No. 12:** **Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 203**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

DPW Deputy Commissioner Quesnell advised the members that there is a desire to install a natural gas line to the jail facility to allow for the conversion of the boilers to natural gas. He added that the boilers currently operate on Number 2 Oil, and the county expects a savings with a conversion to natural gas. He added that Central Hudson is planning work in the area which presented the county with an opportunity to take advantage of the roadways being excavated. The members briefly discussed various types of fuel oil.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 205:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Central Hudson – Department Of Public Works

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Central Hudson in the amount of \$220,000 for the installation of a high pressure natural gas line to the UC Law Enforcement Center to allow for the use of both natural gas and oil in the facility.

**Motion No. 13:**                      **Motion to ADOPT Resolution No. 205**

**Motion By:**                      Legislator Ronk

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**                      None

**Voting In Favor:**                Legislators Collins, Eckert, Haynes, Heppner & Ronk

**Voting Against:**                None

**Votes in Favor:**                5

**Votes Against:**                0

**Disposition:**                **Resolution ADOPTED**

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Chairwoman Eckert advised the members that the monthly financial reports were shared with the members in their meeting materials and asked if there were any events the members would like to share.

Legislator Ronk informed the members that the Ulster County Police Chief's Association dinner was being held later in the week on Wednesday. He added that the Ulster County Sheriff's Department Awards Dinner was being held on May 17<sup>th</sup>. He asked Legislative staff to email the members the details. He commented that it is amazing to hear how many lives are saved by members in the Sheriff's Office each year. He added that it was eye opening to hear that the office no longer provides awards for lives saved with the overdose reversal drug Narcan, because of the dramatic increase in the occurrences. Mr. Erichsen advised the members that a 911 dispatcher was being honored this year for successfully walking someone through CPR which saved a life.

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Chairwoman Eckert asked if the members had any other business. Hearing none she recognized Mr. Mike Davis, Emergency Services Dispatcher for Ulster County. Mr. Davis thanked the committee for the opportunity to speak and stated that he has been working for the county for over 20 years. He informed the members that a bill has been introduced in the US House of Representatives, HR 1629, known as the 911 Saves Act. He explained that 911 dispatchers, which he preferred to refer to as telecommunicators, are classified in the "Office and Administrative Support Occupations" class. He explained that telecommunicators have hours of specialized training they must complete, as well as continuing education requirements, and stated that the "Protective Service Occupations" class would be more appropriate and commensurate with the work telecommunicators perform.



He advised the members that counties throughout the state have been asked to adopt resolutions encouraging New York State representatives in Congress to sign on to and support the passage of HR1629. He provided the members with a copy of a Resolution drafted in Cayuga County (appended to these minutes.) Legislator Ronk stated that he would offer the Resolution for introduction and hoped that there would be bi-partisan support.

He advised the members that he would be approaching the committee on a few more issues and thanked them for their time. Chairwoman Eckert thanked Mr. Davis for attending.

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Chairwoman Eckert advised the members that she was working on scheduling a tour of the UC Law Enforcement Facility just prior to the next meeting scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>. She asked if there was any other business, and hearing none;

### **Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 7:07 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk

**Minutes Approved:** June 3, 2019



# SOTER RS

THE ULTIMATE SUBSTITUTE

FOR STRIP SEARCHING



S A F E T Y  
B E G I N S W I T H  
S C A N N I N G





# A SAFE, MORE EFFECTIVE DAILY PROCEDURE

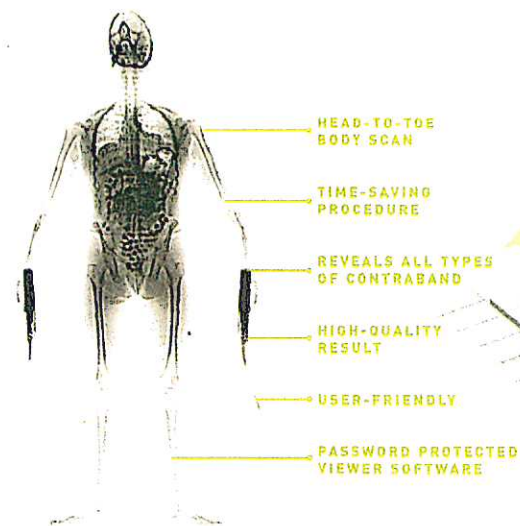
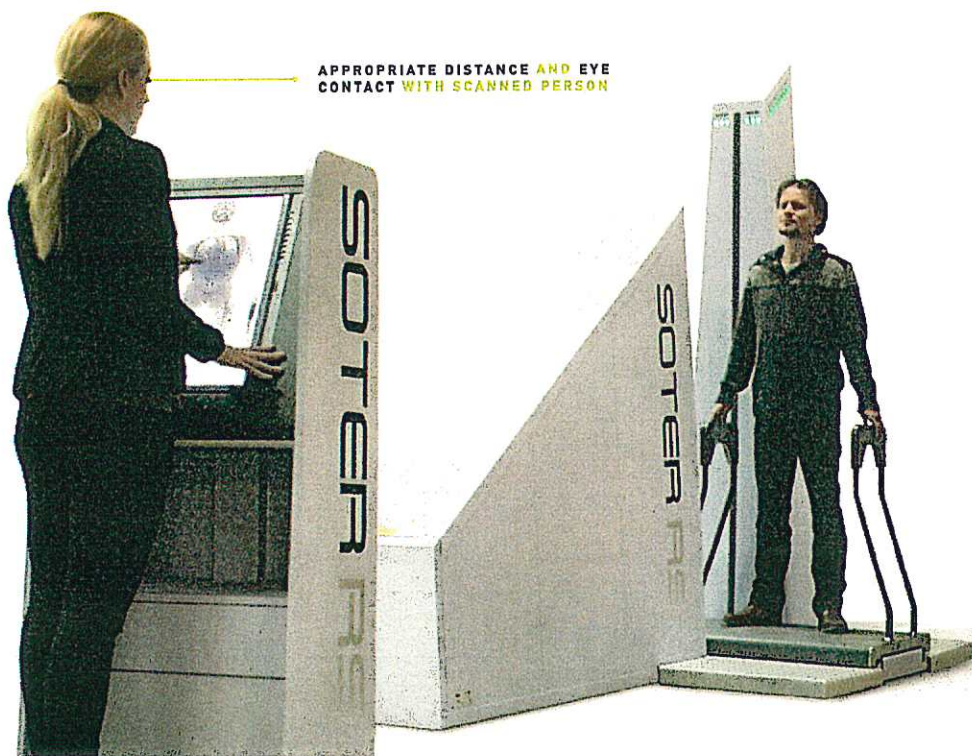
Ensuring a safe environment for personnel, inmates and visitors is an essential daily routine. Managing the risk of contraband (be it drugs, weapons, cell phones or other items) is a constant challenge. To date, strip searching, with its associated risks, has been the only method. There is another safer, more effective solution.

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ODSecurity offers the Soter RS Through Body Scanner as the perfect adoption of proven technology to replace strip search procedures. Human behaviour during a search can be unpredictable, but with the Soter RS Through Body Scanner, contraband can be identified safely and more effectively. The result is an instantaneous,

high-quality head-to-toe body scan: a 100% screening of the person in question. The Soter RS not only reveals all sorts of metal and plastic, but also organic material. Our body scanner supplies full HD plus images by and for your staff. The extensive possibilities for analysis easily detect a wide range of contraband.

APPROPRIATE DISTANCE AND EYE CONTACT WITH SCANNED PERSON



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The Soter RS will substantially save your security process time. We can also provide the machine with an additional operating console, which speeds up the throughput time.

The Soter RS is compact and extremely user-friendly; there is no need for an extensive training. The high quality scan image is achieved with a minimum amount of radiation and is not harmful.

ODSecurity is familiar with the legislation and supports the application of licenses. The Soter RS is delivered with clear test protocols and reports on how to use and install them.

We support you in aiming for a maximum security for your personnel, your visitors and the inmates.



DISPLAY WITH MULTI TOUCH PANEL AND USER FRIENDLY INTERFACE

## CERTIFIED AND SPECIALIZED

The Soter RS is manufactured in the Netherlands. The manufacturing is set up according to the modern principles of high-tech production. ODSecurity is ISO certified and has close partnerships with research institutes and specialized companies. The main objective for ODSecurity is to constantly improve the technology and always look for better solutions through sophisticated use of high-tech features.



## SOTER RS SECURITY BODY-SCANNER SPECIFICATIONS

GENERAL SCANNING DEVICE: Soter RS

DIMENSIONS: L 2950 x H 2500 x W 1850

WEIGHT: 918kg

CONVEYOR SPEED: 0,06 m/s

OPERATING TEMPERATURE: 0-45° Celsius

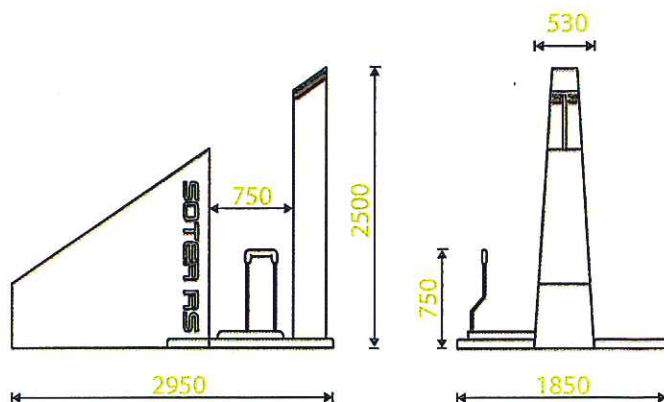
HUMIDITY: 10% to 90% non condensing

SOUND PRESURE LEVEL: < 60 dB

POWER SUPPLY: 230V/110V, 50Hz/ 60 Hz

X-RAY DOSE/INSPECTION: < 1.7 µS

ANSI N43.17 compliant



## GENERAL OPERATOR CONSOLE

MONITOR: 23" multi touch screen

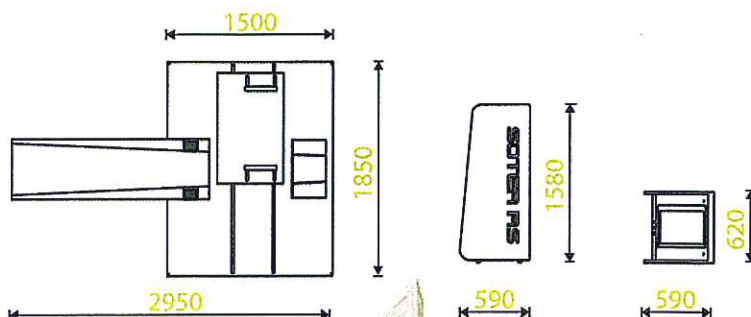
IMAGE RESOLUTION: 2678 x 1200 pixels

MEMORY: 4GB Ram, 2x 250 GB SSD harddisk

CONNECTIVITY: ethernet and dicom compatible

SOFTWARE FEATURES: various filters  
for analyzing the image

ZOOM: → 25 times



## MULTI-USER FUNCTION



## ODSECURITY

ODSecurity has been leading the application of X-ray technology for over 50 years. The Company has achieved worldwide recognition by developing and producing the Odelca, the first scanner used commercially

in large scale medical examinations. To date more than 20,000 units have been sold and installed. We have developed the Soter RS as our next generation scanner for the Security and Correctional Facilities

markets. As a Company, we are fully committed to product excellence and client satisfaction. We care about our business. Please visit us at [www.odsecurity.com](http://www.odsecurity.com)



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**AUTHORIZATION THE CAYUGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE  
H.R. 1629, '911 SAVES' ACT AND THE SENATE COMPANION BILL.**

**BY:** Mr. Christopher Palermo, Chairperson, Judicial and Public Safety Committee  
Mr. Patrick Mahunik, Chairperson, Ways & Means Committee

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**WHEREAS**, the 911 Saves Act directs the US Office of Management and Budget to reclassify public safety telecommunicators from “Office and Administrative Support Occupations” to the category of “Protective Service Occupations”; and

**Whereas** the federal government’s Standard Occupational Classification System (SOCS) sorts workers into occupational categories for statistical purposes, according to the nature of the work performed and, in some cases, on the skills, education, or training needed to perform the work; and

**Whereas** America’s 9-1-1 telecommunicators are currently incorrectly categorized in the SOCS as an “Office and Administrative Support Occupation,” a category which includes secretaries, office clerks, and taxicab dispatchers; and

**Whereas**, classifying 9-1-1 telecommunicators as an “Office and Administrative Support Occupation” fails to recognize their central role in public safety and homeland security, their specialized training and skills, and their uniquely stressful work environment; and

**Whereas**, classifying public safety telecommunicators as “Protective Service Occupations” – alongside police, firefighters, security guards, lifeguards, and others whose job it is to protect our communities – would better reflect the work they perform, and align the SOCS with related classification systems;

**Now, therefore be it Resolved**, that the Cayuga County Legislative Body calls upon all members of The State of New York’s U.S. House delegation to cosponsor H.R. 1629, the Supporting Accurate Views of Emergency Services Act of 2019 (911 SAVES Act), which would direct the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to reclassify public safety telecommunicators as a "Protective Service Occupation"; and we also call upon our U.S. Senators to support the companion legislation; and

**Be it Further**, members of the Cayuga County Legislature will continue to advocate for an accurate statistical classification for 9-1-1 professionals to support critical research into the nature and impacts of 9-1-1 jobs, which differ substantially from those encountered by non-public-safety “Office and Administrative Support Occupations.”

**Judicial & Public Safety**

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Christopher Petrus, Chair

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Keith Batman**Ways & Means Committee**

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Patrick Mahunik, Chair

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Joseph Bennett

## H.R.1629 - 911 SAVES Act

116th Congress (2019-2020) | [Get alerts](#)

**Sponsor:** [Rep. Torres, Norma J. \[D-CA-35\]](#) (Introduced 03/07/2019)

**Committees:** House - Education and Labor

**Latest Action:** House - 03/07/2019 Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor. ([All Actions](#))

**Tracker:** **Introduced** Passed House Passed Senate To President Became Law

Summary(0) **Text(1)** Actions(2) Titles(3) Amendments(0) Cosponsors(51) Committees(1) Related Bills(1)

There is one version of the bill.

**Text available as:** XML/HTML | [XML/HTML \(new window\)](#) | [TXT](#) | [PDF](#) (PDF provides a complete and accurate display of this text.) ?

### Shown Here:

**Introduced in House (03/07/2019)**

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1629

To require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to review and make certain revisions to the Standard Occupational Classification System, and for other purposes.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2019

Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. MEADOWS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. STAUBER, and Ms. WILD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

# A BILL

To require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to review and make certain revisions to the Standard Occupational Classification System, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Accurate Views of Emergency Services Act of 2019” or the “911 SAVES Act”.

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Public Safety Telecommunicators play a critical role in emergency response.

(2) The work Public Safety Telecommunicators perform goes far beyond merely relaying information between the public and first responders.

(3) When responding to reports of missing, abducted, and sexually exploited children, the information obtained and actions taken by Public Safety Telecommunicators form the foundation for an effective response.

(4) When a hostage taker or suicidal person calls 9–1–1, the first contact is with the Public Safety Telecommunicator whose negotiation skills can prevent the situation from getting worse.

(5) During active shooter incidents, Public Safety Telecommunicators coach callers through first aid and give advice to prevent further harm, all while collecting vital information to provide situational awareness for responding officers.

(6) And when police officers, firefighters, and Emergency Medical Technicians are being shot at, their calls for help go to Public Safety Telecommunicators.

(7) They are often communicating with people in great distress, harm, fear, or injury, while employing their experience and training to recognize a critical piece of information.

(8) In fact, there have been incidents in which Public Safety Telecommunicators, recognizing the sound of a racked shotgun, have prevented serious harm or death of law enforcement officers who would have otherwise walked into a trap.

(9) This work comes with an extreme emotional and physical impact that is compounded by long hours and the around-the-clock nature of the job.

(10) Indeed, research has suggested that Public Safety Telecommunicators are exposed to trauma that may lead to the development of posttraumatic stress disorder.

(11) Recognizing the risks associated with exposure to traumatic events, some agencies provide Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) teams to lessen the psychological impact and accelerate recovery for Public Safety Telecommunicators and first responders, alike.

(12) The Standard Occupational Classification system is designed and maintained solely for statistical purposes, and is used by federal statistical agencies to classify workers and jobs into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, analyzing, or disseminating data.

(13) Occupations in the Standard Occupational Classification are classified based on work performed and, in some cases, on the skills, education, or training needed to perform the work.

(14) Classifying public safety telecommunicators as Protective Service Occupations would correct an inaccurate representation in the Standard Occupational Classification, recognize these professionals for the lifesaving work they perform, and better align the Standard Occupational Classification with related classification systems.

### **SEC. 3. REVIEW OF STANDARD OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM.**

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification System.