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MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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PRESS RELEASE

Edwardsville— Madison County State's Attorney Tom Gibbons is complimenting the work of his Civil Division in securing repayment for overtime costs from a summertime power outage.

On July 6, 2012, a construction company severed a fiber optical cable at a work site in the Pontoon Beach area. This resulted in a disruption to the 911 call service. In response, the Madison County Sheriff's Department took over 911 services for unincorporated areas of Madison County requiring multiple Sheriff's Department personnel to work overtime until power was completely restored.

At the request of Madison County Sheriff Bob Hertz, State's Attorney Gibbons assigned Assistant State's Attorney Phil Alfeld to determine whether the construction company was liable for the overtime costs that totaled \$3,850. On October 31, 2012, a check for \$3,850 was received at the State's Attorney's Office in Edwardsville from United Fire & Casualty Company who represented the Mascoutah-based company, Kilian Corporation, that was responsible for severing the fiber optical cable. Likewise, the State's Attorney's Office also requested reimbursement for the City of Alton for overtime costs in the amount of \$324.34 for their role in assisting with the 911 outage. That check was received on November 1, 2012.

Gibbons was pleased that his office, working together with the Sheriff's Department, was able to be successful in resolving the claim. He also thanked the private companies involved for taking responsibility for the accident and reimbursing both Madison County and Alton for the unexpected expenses. "This was the right thing to do," said Gibbons. "Taxpayers should not have been on the hook for these costs. I'm thankful that my Civil Division was successful in securing the reimbursement." Gibbons also commended the work of the police officers who worked to ensure that the citizens of Madison County retained the important 911 service during the outage.

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