

Sergeant Brent Fekety

Sergeant Fekety was tasked with two major collateral duties in 2023 and 2024. He has managed both in an outstanding manner.

The first, and most significant, duty was his appointment by the Chief of Police as the Project Manager for the implementation of the new Versaterm CAD/RMS system in October 2023. Versaterm is a multi-million-dollar police records management and dispatch system that replaced the antiquated Tiburon system. A second collateral duty was assigned to Sergeant Fekety by the Chief of Police in June of 2024. Sergeant Fekety was appointed as the Interim Manager of the Communications Center due to the long-term absence of the regularly assigned manager. Both collateral assignments involve oversight of critical operations of the Department.

As the Project Manager, Sergeant Fekety is responsible for overseeing the implementation and integration of Versaterm's records management system (RMS) and computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system within the Department. He plays a critical role in ensuring that the new CAD/ RMS system effectively supports the Department's operations and enhances the ability to serve the Burbank community.

Sergeant Fekety holds key responsibilities to ensure the project is successfully completed on time. The key responsibilities include:

1. Implementation Management:

- Oversee the installation and configuration of Versaterm software. Sergeant Fekety managed the 6-month configuration process, including multiple week-long CAD and RMS workshops involving key project stakeholders.
- Ensure that the system is customized to meet the specific needs of the Department. Sergeant Fekety used his knowledge and years of experience in the Department to ensure the new system met the needs of the Department. He clearly understands the Department's goal to optimize on technology and ensured the Department would be utilizing all the features of the new system to improve operations and efficiencies.
- Work with the Information Technology Department team to manage data migration from multiple systems to the new Versaterm system.
- Ensure successful go-live dates with minimum issues. Sergeant Fekety prepared a detailed go-live schedule with expectations, support processes, and a back-up plan. He also monitored the system closely during and after the go-live to ensure issues would be addressed quickly.

2. Training and Support:

- Coordinate mandatory training for both sworn and non-sworn members of the Department to ensure they are proficient with the new system. Using OneDrive, Sergeant Fekety implemented an electronic training sign-up process that proved to be easy to use and encouraged for future training sign-ups.

- Assist in the development of training materials and user manuals specific to the Department's multiple operations.
- Serve as a point of contact for troubleshooting and resolving issues during and after implementation.

3. Vendor Liaison:

- Sergeant Fekety is the primary point of contact (POC) between the Department and Versaterm. In addition, he is the POC for the project's Consultant and the IT Department team members.
- In collaboration with Versaterm's Project Manager and the Consultant, Sergeant Fekety ensures all required technical support for system updates are completed on time.

4. Reporting and Documentation:

- Sergeant Fekety provides regular progress reports to the Chief of Police and Command Staff. He also presented a thorough update at the spring Management Team meeting.
- Sergeant Fekety maintains detailed project documentation, including project plans, status reports, and issue logs.

To date, the transition from the Tiburon system to the Versaterm system has been exceptionally smooth. This is due in no small measure to Sergeant Fekety's dedication, attention to detail and outstanding interpersonal skills.

Those same skills were major factors in Sergeant Fekety's selection as the Interim Manager of the Communications Center. In February of 2024, the Communications Manager experienced medical issues that ultimately kept her out of the workplace for several months. Her protracted absence had a negative impact upon daily operations. On June 16, 2024, the Chief of Police appointed Sergeant Fekety as the Interim Manager of the Department's Communications Center.

Sergeant Fekety's appointment to this second collateral duty proved to be particularly beneficial to the Department because of the nexus between the communications center and the Versaterm CAD system. As the newly appointed Interim Manager, Sergeant Fekety immediately set clear expectations for his subordinate personnel and looked for opportunities to improve operations. Despite his primary assignment as an internal affairs investigator, Sergeant Fekety attended Versaterm meetings and checked in with the Communication Center on a daily basis. He put forth a significant effort that ensured a free flow of information at all times.

Sergeant Fekety attended and oversaw the training of all the Communications Center personnel. Additionally, he personally trained all sworn personnel concerning the functions and use of the new mobile digital computers (MDCs). Recognizing the need for equipment upgrades, Sergeant Fekety upgraded the Communications Center

workstations with new computer monitors, keyboards, mice, “push-to-talk” microphones, headsets, and ergonomic chairs.

Sergeant Fekety continued to anticipate technology needs associated with the implementation of the new CAD/RMS. He secured funding and purchased cellphones for officers to utilize the vMobile component of the Versaterm system. He also successfully sought funding and purchased the necessary hardware to display all calls for service in the report writing room. He did not limit his innovations to the patrol function. Sergeant Fekety purchased laptops for all the Forensic Specialists to simplify and streamline their field operations. Lastly, in terms of equipment acquisition, he procured cellphones and an MDC for the jointly operated BPD/GPD Air Support Unit. In summary, Sergeant Fekety was called upon to assume responsibility for two demanding and complex tasks in service to the Burbank community. Both tasks were in addition to his regular assignment. He did not flinch or complain; instead, he willingly took on both missions with determination and enthusiasm. Sergeant Fekety developed a formal cutover plan for each “go-live” operation associated with the CAD and the RMS. He attended all roll calls and made himself completely available for assistance during the “go-live” weeks. The success of this major endeavor is directly linked to the planning, preparation, and training carried out by Sergeant Fekety. He is to be recognized and commended for his diligence, dedication, professionalism, and overall commitment to excellence. Sergeant Fekety’s actions as the Project Manager of the Versaterm conversion in conjunction with his simultaneous role as the Interim Communications Center Manager provide ample evidence to support his nomination as the 2024 Sworn Employee of the Year.