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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Utah Communication Authority (“UCA”) is an independent agency of the State of Utah primarily responsible for maintaining and operating emergency public safety radio networks throughout Utah, managing Utah’s 911 Program, enhancing and supporting emergency communications at the State, regional, local, and tribal levels, and coordinating Utah’s participation in the establishment of a nationwide network dedicated to public safety.

UCA’s Board (the “Board”) recently discovered unauthorized use of its credit card account and an attempt to conceal this misuse through the manipulation of UCA’s credit card statements. When the Board first discovered a corporate credit card statement containing personal and unauthorized charges, it engaged Jason D. Boren and Quinton J. Stephens of Ballard Spahr LLP to conduct an investigation. As a result of this investigation, the Board learned that one of its employees, along with a family member, utilized UCA’s credit cards for their own personal purchases without UCA’s authorization or knowledge. From as early as July of 2009, these individuals made unauthorized charges on UCA’s credit card account totaling over \$800,000.00.

To date, the Board has terminated the subject employee, UCA’s third party accounting entity has terminated its agreement and immediately ceased performing services for UCA, and a new independent accounting firm has been hired, on an interim basis, to handle all financial matters. In addition, UCA’s Executive Director has resigned.

The Board is aggressively pursuing both criminal and civil remedies against the former employee responsible for the unauthorized charges. In particular, the Board filed a civil suit and has obtained signed statements of admission in support of a proposed judgment for all amounts at issue. Additionally, the matter is being investigated for criminal charges.

UCA and the Board take very seriously their responsibility to operate and maintain Utah’s emergency communications network. UCA continues to have a very professional and dedicated team of employees, all of whom are committed to continuing to provide high quality services to Utah’s citizens. UCA and the Board regret that the afore-mentioned events occurred and are committed to pursuing the resolution necessary to resolve the issue.

For additional information please contact Tina Mathieu, Executive Director Weber Area Dispatch 911 & Emergency Services District & Chair of the UCA Board at 801-940-6282.