

December Monthly Bulletin

SAFECOM Spotlight: Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC)

The Major Cities Chiefs (MCC) is a professional organization of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. The MCC provides a unique forum for urban police, sheriffs and other law enforcement chief executives to discuss common problems, to share information and problem-solving strategies. MCC articulates the public safety needs of large cities in the formulation of criminal justice policy.

Representative:

**SAFECOM Executive Committee (EC) Representative*

Below is a snapshot of the work products and initiatives currently being developed by SAFECOM's committees.

Education and Outreach

- ▶ The Committee will hold its first call of 2018 on January 24, 2018, at 2:00 PM EST. During this call, the Committee will:
 - Continue efforts to increase stakeholder foot traffic to web-based resources
 - Update SAFECOM promotional documents to educate stakeholders and decisions makers, including web-based updates, written and oral resources, and new administration staff information on the SAFECOM program
 - Communicate SAFECOM's message to increase awareness of SAFECOM's priorities and activities
 - Develop resources to educate the stakeholder community on public safety communications processes and practices
 - Assist with elevating SAFECOM's role in Public Safety
- ▶ Next Meeting: January 24, 2018, at 2:00 PM EST

Governance

- ▶ Met on December 13, 2017, to close out the year and determine the initiatives the Committee will focus on in 2018, including:
 - Continue efforts to address Strategic Priority 7 to manage and provide modifications to core program documents, such as the SAFECOM Strategic Plan and a streamlined SAFECOM Charter
 - Continue efforts to address Strategic Priority 8 to identify gaps in membership disciplines to determine need for additional SAFECOM membership
 - Support Strategic Priority 9 to provide guidance and recommendations for messaging SAFECOM's emphasis on the value of a single coordinating position or body and the optimal governance structure to enhance state interoperability
 - Support Strategic Priority 10 to ensure data is collected on a regular basis for statewide governance public safety positions
- ▶ Continue to discuss potential in-person meeting dates for 2018
- ▶ Next SAFECOM Membership Working Group Meeting: January 17, 2018

Communications Section Task Force (COMM)

- ▶ The Communications Section Task Force (COMM) held an in-person leadership meeting on December 19, 2017, in Arlington, Virginia. During this meeting, the COMM discussed:
 - Strategic priorities for 2018
 - Performance metrics

- Hosting a Communications Unit Information Technology (IT) Positions Webinar on January 2, 2018 at 2:00 PM EST, to provide an overview of the new IT positions being developed during the January 10-11, 2018, Information Technology Service Unit Leader (ITSL) Workshop
- Developing and presenting a position paper on SAFECOM and National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC) opinion of the future of the communications unit to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Advisory Council (NAC)
- Goals and desired outcomes for the January 10-11, 2018, ITSL Workshop in Los Angeles, California
- Developing and presenting recommendations and a Communications Section transition plan to FEMA in May 2018

Funding and Sustainment

- ▶ Met on November 15, 2017 and discussed the following items:
 - Finalized 2018 Strategic Priorities
 - Continued to provide input to the Fiscal Year 2018 SAFECOM Grant Guidance, with additional discussions occurring on the January conference call
 - Continued to update and finalize the Project 25 letter to State Administrative Agencies
 - Held discussions on Phase II of the *Emergency Communications Life Cycle Guide* and will continue on the Committee's next conference call
- ▶ Next Meeting: January 17, 2018, at 3:00 pm EST

Technology Policy

- ▶ The Committee will hold its first call of 2018 on January 15, 2018, at 3:00 PM EST. During this call, the Committee will:
 - Continue efforts to address Strategic Priority 16 to compile guidelines and best practices for developing public safety communications RFPs by discussing content to be included in the RFP Best Practices for LMR Subscriber Units Toolkit that is in development
 - Support Strategic Priority 17 to increase awareness and explore options for T-Band relocation by learning key outcomes from a meeting held in New York City by impacted city representatives on December 13
 - Support Strategic Priority 18 to support the NG911 Working Group's primary goal to utilize stakeholder feedback from multiple levels of government to identify, document, and develop work products to facilitate the transition to Next Generation 911 by identifying opportunities to support the development, purchase, and transition to/implementation of new technology and support services and products utilized by public safety
 - Discuss potential in-person meeting dates in 2018

Identity, Credentialing, and Access Management (ICAM) Working Group

- ▶ ICAM is pleased to announce Ted Lawson will serve as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) Federal Lead for the ICAM Working Group, effectively immediately
- ▶ Continuing development of discipline-specific education and outreach materials for fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services (EMS), 911, and emergency management to examine ICAM challenges, impacts, and opportunities for each discipline
- ▶ ICAM meetings will resume in early 2018

Next Generation 911 (NG 911) Working Group

- ▶ The Committee will hold its first call of 2018 on January 9, 2018, at 4:00 PM EST. During this call, the working group will continue discussions on collecting and sharing resources to support stakeholder efforts to fund, assess readiness, and complete the transition to NG 911. Additionally, the working group will begin to discuss and scope the following priorities:

- Promoting the Next Generation 911 Readiness Scorecard
- Identifying and sharing best practices on the management of geographic information system (GIS) data
- Developing executive summaries of vital NG911 documents to facilitate information sharing
- Facilitating meaningful discussions among all levels of government to address inconsistencies in architecture and operations among Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), states, and jurisdictional

SAFECOM Association Highlights and Current Events

- ▶ **SAFECOM Nationwide Survey (SNS)** is now [open](#)! The SNS is a nationwide data collection effort to obtain actionable and critical data that drives our nation's emergency communication policies, programs, and funding. SAFECOM will leverage the collected data to identify gaps and inform development of the program's strategic priorities. The SNS will also assist the Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications to execute the Nationwide Communication Baseline Assessment. Visit our [website](#) to learn more and take the survey!

Check out SAFECOM's blog to stay informed about SAFECOM's achievements, product development, community outreach and updates from OEC: www.dhs.gov/safecom/blog

For more information or questions related to SAFECOM, please contact your association's SAFECOM representative or SAFECOMGovernance@hq.dhs.gov