

SAFECOM

January Monthly Bulletin

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

Education and Outreach

- ▶ The Communications Unit (COMU) Working Group decided to focus their efforts on developing a Nationwide COMU Governance Structure white paper and to garner support at the state executive level for a National Communications Unit.
- ▶ The Education and Outreach call was postponed for February 3, 2016 due to inclement weather, during which the Committee finalized the updated SAFECOM Fact Sheet and reviewed the draft SAFECOM member Roles & Responsibilities Document.
- ▶ Next meeting: February 24, 2016, at 2:00 pm ET

Funding and Sustainment

- ▶ Provided input on Appendix D of the SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants.
- ▶ The "Land Mobile Radio (LMR) 101," "LMR for Decision-Makers," and "LMR for Project Managers" document were approved by the NCSWIC Executive Committee (EC), and the SAFECOM EC; the documents will be posted to the SAFECOM website following 508 Compliance.
- ▶ Engaged in planning for calendar year 2016, including setting goals and objectives, and defining activities, products, and deliverables for 2016.
- ▶ Next meeting: February 17, 2016, at 2:00 pm ET

Technology Policy

- ▶ Discussed ongoing initiatives and potential 2016 work products.
- ▶ The Committee continued to discuss the T-band topic and related work products, such as the T-Band Executive Briefing Talking Points.
- ▶ Provided input for the *Guidelines for Encryption in LMR Systems* document and the *Incident Management Information Sharing Content Maturity Model* effort.
- ▶ Next meeting: February 16, 2016, at 3:00 pm ET

Governance

- ▶ Solicited input from SAFECOM Associations for accomplishments for inclusion in the 2015 SAFECOM Annual Report. The Governance Committee continues to develop the Report.
- ▶ Drafted the *Strategic Priorities Summary of Accomplishments* Fact Sheet and is under Committee review.
- ▶ Continued to review the EC governance structure recommendations.

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- ▶ The Membership Working Group met on January 4 and 25, 2016, to continue the process of identifying potential associations/organizations to join SAFECOM and consider candidates for SAFECOM Public Safety At-Large membership.
- ▶ Next meeting: February 10, 2016, at 2:00 pm ET

SAFECOM Association Highlights and Current Events

New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services

- ▶ On February 3, 2016, the New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services, Office of Interoperability & Emergency Communications will be hosting quarterly meetings of the State Interoperability Governing Board (SIGB) and the Communication & Interoperability Working Group (CIWG) at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm EST respectively. The location of these meeting is the New York State Campus, 1220 Washington Avenue, Building 7A, Albany, NY.
- ▶ On February 10, 2016, the Westchester County Department of Emergency Services (WCDES) will be hosting the quarterly meeting of the New York City Interagency Communications Committee (NYCICC) at 10:00 am EST. The location of this meeting is the New York State Traffic Management Center (TMC) building, Hawthorne, NY.
- ▶ On May 4, 2016, the Suffolk County, NY, Fire & Rescue Services will be hosting the New York City Interagency Communications Committee; Communications Vehicle Rally at their facility in Yaphank, NY, at 8:30 am EST.

Federal News and Current Events

- ▶ On December 18, 2015 the [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016](#) was signed into law by the President.
- ▶ On January 13, 2016, First Responders Network Authority (FirstNet) released its [Request for Proposal \(RFP\)](#).
- ▶ On February 2, 2016, Jim Goldstein attended an oversight hearing on FirstNet. The issue of T-Band came up during the question and answer phrase of the hearing. For the answers to many of the questions about first responders losing the T-Band and assurances that first responders will not lose their ability to communicate, keep an eye out for the upcoming blogpost on this hearing.

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