CISA TRIBAL MISSION

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Tribal Emergency Communications Program supports Native American and Alaska Native tribes (tribes) through consultative engagement, outreach, advocacy, technical assistance, and inter- and intra-agency coordination to ensure strengthened public safety operable and interoperable communications. CISA offers assistance with land mobile radio (LMR); wireless broadband and landline communications; alerts and warnings technology; priority services; communications infrastructure assessment and testing; planning and process documentation; coordination and agreement support; exercise planning and execution; infrastructure security; communications unit training and support; and operational, engineering, and tactical communications support.

Tribal communities have unique cultures, capabilities, needs, and challenges, and CISA strives to establish collaborative relationships to foster a cultural and technical understanding of each tribe's community and emergency communications framework. By understanding how tribal customs, capabilities, challenges, and current governance structures impact decision-making, management, and resource allocation, CISA can collaborate with the tribe to identify opportunities to strengthen communications governance and infrastructure through technical assistance and relationship building. Access more information on CISA tribal engagement at cisa.gov/tribal-emergency-communications-program.

INFORMATION SHARING, TOOLS, AND RESOURCES

CISA provides access to multiple resources that often are developed jointly with the public safety community and policymakers at all levels of government. SAFECOM and the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC) collaboratively have developed guidance documents and tools to improve multi-jurisdictional and intergovernmental communications interoperability of existing communications systems and future networks through technologies and processes. Below are resources which may be of interest to tribes:

COMMUNICATIONS GOVERNANCE AND PLANNING:

- **Tribal Emergency Communications Program Trifold:** Provides an overview of all tribal communications governance and technical support services offered by CISA. Access the trifold at cisa.gov/publication/emergency-communications-fact-sheets.

- **National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP):** Outlines the strategy and implementation plan for strengthening and sustaining nationwide communications and interoperability across all emergency response disciplines. Learn more about the NECP at cisa.gov/necp.

- **Emergency Communications Governance Guide for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) Officials:** Provides recommendations and best practices for public safety officials to establish, assess, and update governance structures that represent all emergency communications capabilities. Access more emergency communications governance resources at cisa.gov/publication/governance-documents.

- **Transition to Next Generation 911 (NG911):** Provides information about CISA's coordination with the joint SAFECOM-NCSWIC NG911 Working Group to develop products and resources that support public safety command centers' transition to NG911, including the NG911 Self-Assessment Tool, which is

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an evaluation mechanism for users to assess the NG911 integration progress of their respective emergency communications centers (ECCs) and public safety answering points (PSAPs). Access more information about NG911 at cisa.gov/safecom/next-generation-911.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

- **Emergency Communications Technical Assistance Planning Guide:** Provides an overview of service offerings that support the enhancement of interoperable communications offered by the Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP) in the areas of public safety communications governance, technology, usage, standard operating procedures, and training and exercises. Learn more about technical assistance resources at cisa.gov/publication/ictapscip-resources.

FUNDING:

- **SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants (SAFECOM Guidance):** Provides information and recommendations for obtaining funding for interoperable emergency communications projects, prioritizing funding, scoping eligibility, and applying for grants based on the applicant's emergency communications systems and capabilities. The SAFECOM Guidance provides funding sources as well as best practices for grants management. Access SAFECOM funding information and resources at cisa.gov/safecom/funding.

PRIORITY SERVICES:

- **Priority Telecommunications Services (PTS):** Offer communications services to allow tribal officials from national security and emergency preparedness (NS/EP) disciplines to communicate during cellular and landline congestion and prioritize voice and data network repairs across the United States. Programs include the Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS), Wireless Priority Services (WPS), and the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP). Access more information at cisa.gov/pts.

- **PTS Training and Videos:** Provides additional information about GETS, WPS, and TSP as well as information on how to enroll and use the services. Access the informational videos at cisa.gov/priority-telecommunications-services-training-and-videos.

RESOURCE LIBRARIES:

- **Emergency Communications Publications Library:** Provides a comprehensive list of resources, tools, and services provided by CISA to support operable and interoperable emergency communications capabilities for public safety and NS/EP partners. Access the publications library at cisa.gov/publications-library/Emergency%20Communications.

- **SAFECOM and NCSWIC Resource Library:** Provides information and resources according to the elements of the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum (governance, standard operating procedures, technology, training and exercises, and usage), and includes sections on planning, funding, interoperability, and Field Operations Guides. Access the resource library at cisa.gov/safecom/resources.

GENERAL:

- **CISA Services Catalog:** Provides a detailed list of services offered by CISA in the areas of cybersecurity, infrastructure security, emergency communications, and risk management. Access the catalog at cisa.gov/publication/cisa-services-catalog.

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