INTRODUCTION TO SAFECOM

June 2021
What is SAFECOM?

SAFECOM was formed in 2001 after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, to improve multi-jurisdictional and intergovernmental communications interoperability.
What is Interoperability?

Interoperability Continuum

- **Governance**: Individual Agencies Working Independently, Informal Coordination Between Agencies, Key Multi-Discipline Staff Collaboration on a Regular Basis, Regional Committee Working within a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan Framework
- **Standard Operating Procedures**: Individual Agency SOPs, Joint SOPs for Planned Events, Joint SOPs for Emergencies, Regional Set of Communications SOPs
- **Technology**: DATA ELEMENTS - Swap Files, Common Applications, Gateway; VOICE ELEMENTS - Swap Radios, Custom-Interfaced Applications, Shared Channels; One-Way Standards-Based Sharing, Proprietary Shared System, Two-Way Standards-Based Sharing, Standards-Based Shared System
- **Training & Exercises**: General Orientation on Equipment and Applications, Single Agency Tabletop Exercises for Key Field and Support Staff, Multi-Agency Tabletop Exercises for Key Field and Support Staff, Multi-Agency Full Functional Exercises Involving All Staff, Regular Comprehensive Regionwide Training and Exercises
- **Usage**: Planned Events, Localized Emergency Incidents, Regional Incident Management, Daily Use Throughout Region
SAFECOM’s Value

• SAFECOM aims to improve emergency response providers’ interjurisdictional and interdisciplinary emergency communications interoperability across local, regional, tribal, state, territorial, international borders, and with Federal government entities

• SAFECOM’s unique blend of members and institutional knowledge lend significant credence to SAFECOM’s products
Who is SAFECOM?
Governance Committee

- Focuses on public safety communications governance, which concentrates on improving both SAFECOM governance structures and processes as well as external statewide governance bodies for public safety communications
- Manages SAFECOM’s membership and develops programmatic resources
• Concentrates on identifying innovative means to fund and sustain emergency communications systems and activities
• Prepares and disseminates information on appropriations and new funding sources available to the public safety community at all levels of government
• Promotes technologies, resources, and policies related to emergency communications and interoperability
• Continues to support LMR, promote broadband technology deployment, and partner with other federal groups to further the use and security of emergency communications systems
Education & Outreach Committee

- Promotes the role of SAFECOM and highlights its impact on emergency communications nationwide
- Leads SAFECOM’s efforts with member and non-member organizations to best communicate SAFECOM’s mission, goals, and priorities

SAFECOM Factsheet

National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP)
SAFECOM Working Groups and Task Forces

SAFECOM creates working groups and task forces to develop on defined product or execute one specific activity. Current SAFECOM working groups and task forces and their alignment are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governance Committee</th>
<th>Funding &amp; Sustainment Committee</th>
<th>Technology Policy Committee</th>
<th>Education and Outreach Committee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Membership Working Group</td>
<td>• Communications Section Task Force</td>
<td>• Project 25 Compliance Assessment Program (CAP) Task Force</td>
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<td>• Cybersecurity Working Group</td>
<td>• Information Sharing Framework Task Force</td>
<td>• Project 25 User Needs Task Force</td>
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<td>• Incident Communications Advisory Council (ICAC)</td>
<td>• Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM) Working Group</td>
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<td>• ICAM Sub-Working Group</td>
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<td>• Interoperability Continuum Working Group</td>
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SAFECOM Executive Board

- SAFECOM is headed by the SAFECOM Executive Board
- The 11 member board is responsible for providing strategic leadership to SAFECOM and approving SAFECOM’s array of products
SAFECOM Leadership

**SAFECOM Chair**
Chief Gerald Reardon

SAFECOM At-Large (City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, Fire Department)

**First Vice Chair**
Chief Chris Lombard

The Interagency Board for Emergency Preparedness & Response (IAB); SAFECOM At-Large (Seattle, Washington Fire Department)

**Second Vice Chair**
Chief Jay Kopstein

SAFECOM At-Large (New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services)
SAFECOM Leadership

SAFECOM Board Members

Chief Doug Aiken
National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC)

Anthony Catalanotto
SAFECOM At-Large (New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services)

Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald
National Sheriffs’ Association (NSA)

Charlie Sasser
National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD)
SAFECOM Leadership

SAFECOM Committee Chairs

**Governance**
Captain George Perera

**Education & Outreach**
Michael Davis

**Funding & Sustainment**
Lloyd Mitchell

**Technology Policy**
Philip Mann

**SAFECOM At-Large**
(Miami-Dade Police Department)

**SAFECOM At-Large**
(Ulster County 911 Emergency Communications)

Forestry Conservation Communications Association (FCCA)

American Public Works Association (APWA)
SAFECOM Resources

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Website
cisa.gov/SAFECOM

Blog
cisa.gov/SAFECOM/blog

Membership
cisa.gov/safecom/membership

Funding Products
cisa.gov/safecom/funding

Technology Products
cisa.gov/technology

Governance Products
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Planning Products
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SAFECOM Resources

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