



Interoperability Elevator Pitch

Elevator Pitch: *The elevator pitch is designed to be a quick hit **spoken** message about the importance of interoperability issues, the Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications (OEC), and Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (SWIC) and Statewide Interoperability Governing Boards (SIGB). This is only the start of a conversation to pique their interest and should be followed up with more detailed information related to the specific issues that your audience needs to know.*

OEC

“Interoperable emergency communications doesn’t just happen because a piece of equipment is in a police officer’s or firefighter’s hand. It happens because the emergency response community has developed the relationships, invested significant funds and expended countless time and effort to make sure communications is there when they need it and they know how to use it in any emergency. We are now seriously concerned that we are seeing the slow dismantling of public safety’s progress due to decreased funding and the idea that broadband will replace traditional public safety radio systems (LMR) in the near future. It will not. The Federal government’s key partner in this effort is the Office of Emergency Communications, we are the voice of local, state, tribal and federal emergency communications nationwide. Since OEC was established we helped the community build relationships that made interoperability possible. We want to make sure that the public safety communities nationwide continue to receive essential support from our organization through **<insert relevant service offerings>** to continue to increase their response capacity and enable the continued usage of LMR (through sustainment, maintenance, and upgrades) while incorporating new technologies like broadband.”

SWIC/SIGB

“Interoperable emergency communications doesn’t just happen because a piece of equipment is in a police officer’s or firefighter’s hand. It happens because the emergency response community has developed the relationships, invested significant funds and expended countless time and effort to make sure communications is there when we need it and they know how to use it in any emergency. We are now seriously concerned that we are seeing the slow dismantling of **<insert state name>**’s progress due to decreased funding for the effort and the idea that broadband will replace our traditional public safety radio systems (LMR). It will not. The **<insert state name>** Statewide Interoperability Coordinator and our statewide governance structure coordinate our **<state’s>** vast emergency response community around this issue. In our initial years we helped the community build relationships that made interoperability possible. We want to make sure that the public safety communities within our State do not lose critical mission-critical voice capabilities (through sustainment, maintenance, and upgrades) as they incorporate new technologies like broadband.”

For questions regarding OEC or the SWIC, please contact your SWIC or the [NCSWIC Inbox](#).