

## March Monthly Bulletin

### **SAFECOM Spotlight: National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC)**

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) is a volunteer federation of public safety organizations, whose mission is to improve public safety communications and interoperability through collaborative leadership. NPSTC's member organizations represent fire, emergency medical services (EMS), law enforcement, transportation, and other telecommunications organizations. Efforts include monitoring and studying public policy and submitting comments to governmental organizations on behalf of the public safety community. NPSTC works to ensure the public safety community has the spectrum needed to communicate in life-threatening situations without interference, through the exploration of technology, standards, and interoperable communications solutions.

*Representatives: Douglas M. Aiken, Marilyn Ward*

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

### **Education and Outreach**

- ▶ Continued to develop and discuss draft *Public Safety Communications Evolution Brochure* graphics and May 2017 SAFECOM – National Council Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (NCSWIC) In-Person Meeting working session
- ▶ Members presented at the International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) in Las Vegas, Nevada. Their presentation, *How SAFECOM Shares Policy and Services to Meet First Responders' Communications Needs* was well attended and received
- ▶ Next meeting: April 26, 2017, at 2:00 PM ET

### **Communications Unit Working Group**

- ▶ Considered graphic to illustrate the Communications Unit environment to complement the white paper, *An Unmet Need: National-Level Governance for the NIMS/ICS Communications Unit*
- ▶ Coordinated initial logistics for in-person Working Group meeting in August (*Denver, Colorado*)
- ▶ Next meeting: April 10, 2017, at 2:00 PM ET

### **Funding and Sustainment**

- ▶ David Soloos, Oregon Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), was selected as the new National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC) Funding and Sustainment Committee Chair
- ▶ SAFECOM and NCSWIC provided feedback on the *SAFECOM Grant Guidance*; Comments were due March 23, 2017
- ▶ Reviewed and finalized the revised Project 25 (P25) Letter to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This letter will be sent to FEMA, the State Administrative Agencies (SAA), and the Homeland Security Advisors (HSAs)
- ▶ Published the One-Page Life Cycle Template; In 2011, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) released the Emergency Communications System Life Cycle Planning

Guide to help practitioners plan for and deploy public safety communications systems. This Template provides additional information on funding considerations during each phase of the life cycle

- ▶ Continued to survey Committee members on how to estimate the life cycle of systems. A larger survey to the full SAFECOM and NCSWIC memberships will be developed in April 2017
- ▶ Reviewed the System Life Cycle graphic
- ▶ Next Meeting: April 19, 2017, at 4:00 PM ET

## Technology Policy

- ▶ Discussed and continued to revise the “Public Safety Grade” definition and the *Public Safety Grade White Paper*
- ▶ Discussed lessons learned and best practices from the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Winter Institute
- ▶ Received updates on Federal Partnership for Interoperable Communications (FPIC) and the Inter RF Subsystem Interface (ISSI) and Console Subsystem Interface (CSSI) [ISSI/CSSI] Focus Group initiatives and activities
- ▶ Discussed upgrades and enhancements to the Communications Asset Survey and Mapping (CASM) Tool; Members were invited to participate in a CASM demonstration scheduled for March 24, 2017
- ▶ Approved the following Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM) Working Group work products for both the SAFECOM and NCSWIC Executive Committees’ (EC) approval: *Trustmark Framework Position Paper, Trustmark Framework Tri-fold Brochure, ICAM 101 Executive Briefing*
- ▶ Discussed request for proposal (RFP) guidance materials
- ▶ Next meeting: April 18, 2017, at 3:00 PM ET

## ICAM Working Group

- ▶ Hosted Trustmark Framework Webinar on March 16, 2017, to educate SAFECOM and NCSWIC members on the Trustmark Framework and federated ICAM solutions; Responded to questions and comments from SAFECOM and NCSWIC members
- ▶ Held monthly Working Group Call on March 21, 2017, to recap key takeaways from the Trustmark Framework Webinar; develop, review and approve the *ICAM Reference Guide*
- ▶ Discussed and prioritized upcoming work products and initiatives
- ▶ Next meeting: April 18, 2017, at 3:00 PM ET

## Governance

- ▶ Finalized the *2016 SAFECOM Annual Report, Summary of Accomplishments*, and the *2017 SAFECOM Strategic Plan and Implementation Guide* during the March 9, 2017, EC conference call
- ▶ The Membership Working Group continues to identify SAFECOM’s membership needs and develop criteria candidates should meet to fill those needs

## SAFECOM Association Highlights and Current Events

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](http://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](mailto:SAFECOMGovernance@hq.dhs.gov)*