May Monthly Bulletin

SAFECOM Spotlight: National Governors Association (NGA)

The National Governors Association (NGA) is the bipartisan organization of the nation’s governors. Through the NGA, governors share best practices, speak with a collective voice on national policy and develop innovative solutions that improve state government and support the principles of federalism. NGA provides governors and their senior staff members with services that range from representing states on Capitol Hill and before the Administration on key federal issues to developing and implementing innovative solutions to public policy challenges through the NGA Center for Best Practices. Through NGA, governors identify priority issues and deal collectively with matters of public policy and governance at the state and national levels.

Representative: Shirrell Roberts*, Timothy Blute
*SAFECOM Executive Committee (EC) Representative

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

Education and Outreach

- Elected Mike Murphy, SAFECOM At-Large, as Education and Outreach Committee Vice Chair
- Discussed the decline of younger generations’ interest in emergency communications and identified trends and possible outcomes to develop a white paper
- Reviewed the new and revised SAFECOM webpage and website analytics
- Conducted a SAFECOM Highlight interview of Tom Roche, International Chiefs of Police (IACP) and SAFECOM At-Large
- Brainstormed additional Education and Outreach Committee products
- Next Meeting: June 28, 2017, at 2:00 PM ET

Communications Unit (COMU) Working Group

- Discussed the Working Group sub-group structure to ensure each effort and product has the resources and support needed to successfully carry out its mission and product development
- Reviewed information about an upcoming Technical Assistance offering on state COMU planning
- Next Meeting: June 19, 2017, at 2:00 PM ET

Funding and Sustainment

- Discussed the recent award of the FirstNet contract, and noted the continued need to continue to educate and communicate with elected officials and decision-makers on the entire communications portfolio
- Distributed the life cycle survey to SAFECOM and National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC) members which will be used to estimate life cycles, and inform future Life Cycle Planning Guide sections
- Finalized four sections of the Life Cycle Planning Guide: Introduction; Pre-Planning; Planning; Acquisition
- Next Meeting: June 21, 2017, at 3:30 PM ET
Technology Policy

- Continued discussion on Public Safety Grade definition and white paper
- Conducted working session on a Request for Proposal (RFP) for subscriber units to draw out best practices for administering the RFP process
- Received update on the Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM) Working Group
- Received updates on Federal Partnership for Interoperable Communications (FPIC) activities and initiatives
- Discussed and prioritized future work products and Committee initiatives
- Next Meeting: June 27, 2017, at 3:00 PM ET

ICAM Working Group

- Received approval from both the SAFECOM and NCSWIC Executive Committees for the following work products:
  - Trustmark Framework Position Paper
  - Trustmark Framework Tri-fold Brochure
  - ICAM 101 Executive Briefing
- Released ICAM blog post on the SAFECOM/NCSWIC website
- Posted approved documents to the ICAM webpage on the SAFECOM/NCSWIC website
- Researched and explored outreach opportunities for additional ICAM work products
- Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for late June

Governance

- Discussed current and future initiatives for each of the active working groups, to include the Membership Working Group (MWG) and the State Governance Review Working Group (SGRWG)
- Discussed developing a revised work product approval process for providing all SAFECOM members with the opportunity to review and comment on the products and initiatives developed by all committees
- The MWG continues to identify SAFECOM’s membership needs and develop criteria candidates should meet to fill those needs
- The SGRWG continues to develop the SAFECOM Standards for Statewide Public Safety Communications Governance Structure (“Strawman”)
- The June conference call has been postponed in favor of conducting working group calls throughout June
- Next Meeting: July 12, 2017, at 2:00 PM ET

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