[Region Name]

Regional Interoperable Communications Plan

[INSERT DATE], Version

Distribution is limited to those parties authorized by [Insert Appropriate Authority]. The point of contact (POC) for this document is [Insert Agency]. Current contact information for the POC can be found in Section 1.4 of this document.

Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP)

Signature Page

This document establishes a RICP for the [INSERT REGION NAME], inclusive of [Insert Urban Area Security Initiative(s) Name(s) if applicable]. The [INSERT REGION NAME] RICP is intended to document the overall strategy for achieving interoperable communications in the region, including the current state, the vision, and the initiatives to achieve that vision.

On [INSERT DATE], the [INSERT APPROVAL AUTHORITY] adopted the [INSERT REGION NAME] Regional Interoperable Communications Plan.

The [INSERT REGION NAME] includes the Counties/Cities of _____,

_____, _____, _____, _____,

_____, and _____, and all jurisdictions and/or public safety agencies within these counties/cities.

Approved by:

_____ _____

[INSERT NAME/TITLE/AGENCY] Date

_____ _____

[INSERT NAME/TITLE/AGENCY] Date

_____ _____

[INSERT NAME/TITLE/AGENCY] Date

Concurrence:

_____ _____

[INSERT NAME/TITLE/AGENCY] Date

_____ _____

[INSERT NAME/TITLE/AGENCY] Date

_____ _____

[INSERT NAME/TITLE/AGENCY] Date

Record of Change

This RICP is subject to information and/or equipment updates and changes. The use of this Record of Change helps manage the RICP modifications throughout the life of this document.

Change No.	Date	Description	Signature
001	[INSERT DATE]	RICP Version 1.1 DRAFT	

Executive Summary

This document establishes a Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP) for [INSERT REGION NAME].

The RICP is designed to align with the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP), [INSERT STATE NAME] Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP), the National Response Framework, and the Target Capabilities List.

A coordinated stakeholder-driven approach will ensure the comprehensive implementation of communications interoperability strategies outlined within the NECP; SCIP; and Urban Areas Security Initiative, regional, and local planning documents.

Recognizing the need for an overarching emergency communications strategy to address communications deficiencies that exist at the regional level, the RICP provides the governance and authority needed to assist in grant funding allocations for regional interoperable communications.

There are a number of documents and resources referenced throughout this document. Where appropriate, a hyperlink has been inserted. A complete listing with corresponding URLs has also been included in Appendix H.

[REGION SHOULD COMPLETE THIS SUMMARY, AS AN EXECUTIVE-LEVEL OVERVIEW OF THE DOCUMENT ONCE THE CONTENT BELOW IS COMPLETE, AS DESIRED.]

Table of Contents

1 Governance

1.1 Statewide Governing Body

The [INSERT STATE] Statewide Interoperability Governance Body (SIGB) provides oversight and authority for interoperability initiatives within the State and has responsibility to oversee the development and implementation of the statewide communications interoperability strategy and supporting interoperability initiatives.

[INSERT OVERVIEW AND ORGANIZATION CHART FOR SIGB]

1.2 Regional Governance Authority

[INSERT STATE] has regional governance structures that work in coordination with the SIGB and provide oversight for the development and implementation of the regional communications interoperability strategy and supporting strategic initiatives.

The [INSERT REGIONAL INTEROPERABILITY COMMITTEE (RIC) NAME] has authority in accordance with the [INSERT STATE GOVERNMENT CODE] and the [INSERT STATE] Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP).

1.3 Regional Interoperability Committee Representatives

The Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP) was developed under the authority of the [INSERT RIC NAME]. On [INSERT DATE], the [INSERT RIC NAME] appointed members to the [INSERT NAMES OF STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES]. These subcommittees are based on the lanes of the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum, and will serve as advisory committees to the [INSERT RIC NAME].

The [INSERT REGION NAME] has the authority, organizational structure, and responsibilities to lead regional communications efforts as they relate to communications interoperability. The subsections below define the responsibilities of the Regional Coordinator and RIC Chairperson, and provide information regarding RIC meetings.

Table 1 lists [INSERT REGION NAME] RIC members, the organization(s) they represent, titles, contact information, and any subcommittee(s) on which they serve.

Table 1: RIC Members and Subcommittees

RIC Member Name	Organization(s) Represented	Title	Contact Information	RIC Subcommittee

1.4 RICP Points of Contact

[INSERT REGION NAME] and [INSERT STATE AGENCY(S)] partnered to develop this RICP. The following includes the leadership and State agency(s) responsible for completing the RICP:

Regional Coordinator:

[INSERT AGENCY NAME]:

[INSERT POINT OF CONTACT (POC) NAME]:

[INSERT TITLE]:

[INSERT ADDRESS]:

[INSERT OFFICE PHONE]:

[INSERT CELL PHONE]:

[INSERT 24/7 PHONE]:

[INSERT E-MAIL]:

RIC Chairperson:

[INSERT AGENCY NAME]:

[INSERT POC NAME]:

[INSERT TITLE]:

[INSERT ADDRESS]:

[INSERT OFFICE PHONE]:

[INSERT CELL PHONE]:

[INSERT 24/7 PHONE]:

[INSERT E-MAIL]:

State Agency:

[INSERT AGENCY NAME]:

[INSERT POC NAME]:

[INSERT TITLE]:

[INSERT ADDRESS]:

[INSERT OFFICE PHONE]:

[INSERT CELL PHONE]:

[INSERT 24/7 PHONE]:

[INSERT E-MAIL]:

Please refer to Appendix A for a list of all counties, jurisdictions, and agencies that participated in the development of the RICP. Appendix A also lists all agencies in the region and identifies those that were e-mailed a copy of the completed RICP.

1.5 Regional Coordinator and RIC Chairperson

1.5.1 Regional Coordinator

- Role/Responsibilities include:
  - [INSERT REGIONAL COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT REGIONAL COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT REGIONAL COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT ADDITIONAL REGIONAL COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES]

1.5.2 RIC Chairperson

- Role/Responsibilities include:
  - [INSERT RIC CHAIRPERSON RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT RIC CHAIRPERSON RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT RIC CHAIRPERSON RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT ADDITIONAL RIC CHAIRPERSON RESPONSIBILITIES]

1.5.3 RIC Responsibilities

- [INSERT RIC NAME] Role/Responsibilities include:
  - [INSERT RIC RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT RIC RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT RIC RESPONSIBILITY]
  - [INSERT ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES]

1.5.4 RIC Meeting Schedule

The [INSERT RIC NAME] meets regularly at the [INSERT LOCATION/TIME/DATE].

1.5.5 Annual RIC Meeting

The [INSERT REGION NAME] annual RIC meeting will take place on [INSERT DATE]. During the annual meeting, the RIC will revisit the RICP and identify initiatives to:

- Discuss initiative progress and status.
- Identify potential new initiatives.
- Determine if existing initiatives have become a higher/lower priority.

In addition, the RIC will review and update, as necessary, the Regional Strategy Initiative Project Plan (Appendix D).

1.5.6 RIC Report to the SWIC

Following the annual meeting, the RIC will submit an annual RIC Report to the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) office. Examples of some of the information to include in the annual report are:

- Accomplishments and status of initiatives
- Initiative progress along the lanes of the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum
- Funding priorities
- Projects that are prioritized and recommended for funding based on SCIP and RICP priorities
- Risk factors as defined by the Target Capabilities List
- [INSERT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ANNUAL REPORT]

1.6 RICP Ratification Process

The following is the ratification procedure for the [INSERT REGION NAME] RICP:

- All participating agencies, jurisdictions, and counties review and comment on the RICP during an established timeframe.
- The RIC approves the RICP document at the [INSERT MEETING DATE] RIC strategy meeting and shares the final RICP with the SWIC.
- [INSERT ADDITIONAL RATIFICATION PROCEDURES]
- The RIC completes the approval process on [INSERT DATE].

1.7 RICP Maintenance and Updates

Requests for modifications or additions to the RICP should be submitted to the Regional Coordinator for distribution to the [INSERT RIC NAME] as well as the agency/jurisdiction participating in the development of the recommended updates. Jurisdictions participating in this RICP will be formally notified by the Regional Coordinator within [INSERT NUMBER OF DAYS] of any approved modifications or additions to the RICP.

At a minimum, the Regional Coordinator will review the [INSERT REGION NAME] RICP annually and submit changes as needed. Revisions can be made to any section of the RICP without having to recreate the entire RICP by:

- Revising the specific section(s)
- Recording the change(s) on the Record of Change in table 2
- Submitting the updated section(s) to the Regional Coordinator

All revisions to the [INSERT REGION NAME] RICP are documented in the RICP Record of Change in table 2**.**

Table 2: RICP Record of Change

Change No.	Description	Change Date	Approved By

2 [Insert Region Name] Strategy

2.1 Approach and Methodology

[INSERT DESCRIPTION OF APPROACH USED TO DEVELOP STRATEGY]

2.2 National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) and SCIP Goals

2.2.1 NECP Goals

Recognizing the need for an overarching, nationwide emergency communications strategy, Congress directed the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) to develop the first National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP). Title XVIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 United States Code 101 et seq.), as amended, calls for the NECP to be developed in coordination with stakeholders from all levels of government and from the private sector.

In response, DHS worked with stakeholders from Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies to develop the NECP - a strategic plan that establishes a national vision for the future state of emergency communications. The desired future state is that emergency responders can communicate as needed, on demand, and as authorized at all levels of government across all disciplines.

To measure progress toward this vision, three strategic goals were established:

Goal 1 (completed in 2010): By 2010, 90 percent of all high-risk urban areas designated within the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) are able to demonstrate response-level emergency communications within one hour for routine events involving multiple jurisdictions and agencies.

Goal 2: By 2011, 75 percent of non-UASI jurisdictions are able to demonstrate response-level emergency communications within one hour for routine events involving multiple jurisdictions and agencies.

Goal 3: By 2013, 75 percent of all jurisdictions are able to demonstrate response-level emergency communications within three hours of a significant event as outlined in national planning scenarios.

2.2.2 [Insert State Name] SCIP Goals

Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans (SCIPs) are locally-driven, multi-jurisdictional, and multidisciplinary statewide plans to enhance emergency communications interoperability. Every State has an approved SCIP that addresses designated critical elements for statewide interoperability and a self-identified process to frequently update the SCIP as progress is made and new initiatives emerge. The SCIPs were analyzed and incorporated into the development of the NECP and Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) grant guidance. Many States have revised their SCIPs to align with the NECP goals and milestones to promote a coordinated nationwide strategy addressing operable and interoperable communications.

The priority goals from the [INSERT STATE NAME] SCIP include:

- [INSERT STATE NAME SCIP PRIORITY 1]
- [INSERT STATE NAME SCIP PRIORITY 2]
- [INSERT STATE NAME SCIP PRIORITY 3]
- [INSERT ADDITIONAL SCIP PRIORITIES]

2.3 RICP Mission, Vision, and Goals

The following section details the vision, mission, and goals for [INSERT REGION NAME], and outlines timelines for short-, medium-, and long-term goals

2.3.1 RICP Vision

[INSERT VISION STATEMENT]

2.3.2 RICP Mission

[INSERT MISSION STATEMENT]

2.3.3 Summary of Regional Goals

This section summarizes the [INSERT REGION NAME]'s goals, including a description of timelines associated with short-, medium-, and long-term goals. The goals of this RICP are aligned with the major lanes of the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum as well as the NECP and the [INSERT STATE NAME] SCIP.

Goal timelines are defined as the following:

- **Short-term**: includes priorities projected for completion within 3 years from ratification of the RICP
- **Medium-term**: includes priorities projected for completion between 3 and 5 years from ratification of the RICP
- **Long-term**: includes priorities projected for completion between 6 and 10 years from ratification of the RICP

[INSERT GOAL 1:]

[INSERT GOAL 2:]

[INSERT GOAL 3:]

[INSERT GOAL 4:]

2.4 RICP Initiatives

This section summarizes the [INSERT REGION NAME]'s initiatives related to each of the goals, including planned timeframe for completion. Additional details for these initiatives are provided in the Regional Strategy Initiative Project Plan (Appendix D).

2.4.1 Governance

This section describes the current and future states of regional governance and provides a summary that includes governance-related goal(s) as well as associated initiatives and timeframes for achievement.

Current State:
[INSERT CURRENT STATE OF GOVERNANCE]

Future State
[INSERT FUTURE STATE OF GOVERNANCE]

Governance Goal(s) and Initiatives:

[RESTATE GOAL 1:]

[INSERT GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE 1.1]

[INSERT GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE 1.2]

[INSERT GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE 1.3]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES]

2.4.2 Standard Operating Procedures

This section describes the current and future states of regional SOPs and provides a summary that includes SOP-related goal(s) as well as associated initiatives and timeframes for achievement.

Current State
[INSERT CURRENT STATE OF SOPS]

Future State
[INSERT FUTURE STATE OF SOPS]

SOP Goal(s) and Initiatives

[RESTATE GOAL 2[1]:]

[INSERT SOP INITIATIVE 2.1]

[INSERT SOP INITIATIVE 2.2]

[INSERT SOP INITIATIVE 2.3]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL SOP INITIATIVES]

[1] Goal numbers may vary based upon the unique aspects of each RICP

2.4.3 Technology

This section describes the current and future states of regional technology initiatives and provides a summary that includes technology-related goal(s) as well as associated initiatives and timeframes for achievement.

Current State
[INSERT CURRENT STATE OF TECHNOLOGY]

Future State
[INSERT FUTURE STATE OF TECHNOLOGY]

Technology Goal(s) and Initiatives

[RESTATE GOAL 3[2]:]

[INSERT TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE 1]

[INSERT TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE 2]

[INSERT TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE 3]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES]

2.4.4 Training and Exercises

This section describes the current and future state of training and exercises and provides a summary that includes training and exercises-related goal(s) as well as associated initiatives and timeframes for achievement. In addition, the Future State sub-section below identifies specific regional and/or statewide training and exercises that are planned for the pre-established RICP period (e.g., if the RICP is updated annually, training and exercises should be included for the coming year).

Current State
[INSERT CURRENT STATE OF TRAINING AND EXERCISES]

Future State
[INSERT FUTURE STATE OF TRAINING AND EXERCISES]

[INCLUDE SPECIFIC REGIONAL AND/OR STATEWIDE TRAINING OR EXERCISES]

Training and Exercises Goal(s) and Initiatives

[RESTATE GOAL 4[3]:]

[INSERT TRAINING AND EXERCISES INITIATIVE 1]

[INSERT TRAINING AND EXERCISES INITIATIVE 2]

[INSERT TRAINING AND EXERCISES INITIATIVE 3]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND EXERCISE INITIATIVES]

[2] Goal numbers may vary based upon the unique aspects of each RICP
[3] Goal numbers may vary based upon the unique aspects of each RICP

3 Implementation Strategy

The RIC has identified the following RICP initiatives as priorities:

[INSERT PRIORITIZED RICP INITIATIVE 1:]

[INSERT PRIORITIZED RICP INITIATVE 2:]

[INSERT PRIORITIZED RICP INITIAVE 3:]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL PRIORITIZED RICP INITIATIVES, IF APPLICABLE]

3.1 Initiative Working Groups

To manage and implement these initiatives, the RIC has created Initiative Working Groups (IWGs) for each of the aforementioned priorities. IWGs and their assigned initiatives are as follows:

[INSERT NAME OF IWG 1]

[INSERT NAME OF IWG LEAD]

[INSERT ASSIGNED INITIATIVES]

[INSERT NAME OF IWG 2]

[INSERT NAME OF IWG LEAD]

[INSERT ASSIGNED INITIATIVES]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL IWG INFORMATION AS NECESSARY]

3.2 Reporting Progress

Each IWGs is tasked with developing and completing action plans for each assigned initiative. Each Regional Strategy Initiative Project Plan (found in Appendix D) includes:

- Detailed, measurable initiative tasks
- Specific timelines and milestones
- Task owners, task partners, and missing stakeholders
- Available resources and resource needs and constraints
- New opportunities and lagging concerns regarding alignment with other regions' strategic plans, the SCIP, and the NECP

The IWG lead will be responsible for reporting initiative progress to the RIC on a [INSERT TIME INTERVAL] basis.

[THIS SPACE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK]

Appendix A: Participating Counties, Jurisdictions, and Agencies

This Appendix includes information on the counties, jurisdictions, and agencies that participated in the Regional Interoperability Communications Plan (RICP) development process. It also includes information on those counties, jurisdictions, and agencies that have received a copy of the RICP.

Tables A-1 through A-4 include the points of contact (POCs) for the counties, cities, non-governmental organizations, urban areas, and other agencies that participated in the RICP development.

Table A-1. POC Information for Participating Counties/Local Jurisdictions/Agencies

County/Local Jurisdiction/Agency	POC Name	Emergency Contact Information

Table A-2. POC Information for Participating State Agencies

State Agency	POC Name	Emergency Contact Information

Table A-3. POC Information for Participating Federal Agencies

Federal Agency	POC Name	Emergency Contact Information

Table A-4. POC Information for Participating Non-governmental Agencies

Organization	POC Name	Emergency Contact Information
Example: Red Cross / Salvation Army		

Table A-5 details those agencies within [INSERT REGION NAME] using the communications systems in [INSERT REGION NAME] during a large-scale event or emergency. Included in the table is each agency's POC and contact information, the date they were invited to participate in the RICP process, and the date they were sent (e-mailed) a completed copy of the RICP.

Table A-5. Agencies Provided with a Completed RICP

Agency	POC Name	Emergency Contact Information	Date Invited to Participate in RICP Process	Date RICP Was Sent

Appendix B: Comprehensive Regional Interoperable Communications Plan Data

This Appendix includes detailed information regarding [INSERT REGION NAME]'s voice and data systems, standard operating procedures, and related resource and personnel information.

B.1 Regional Narrowbanding

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a mandate that land mobile radio (LMR) systems operating in the 150-174 MHz and 421-512 MHz bands migrate to narrowband (12.5 kHz or narrower) technology by January 1, 2013.

[INSERT REGION NAME] is/is not impacted by the FCC narrowbanding requirements. [INSERT AGENCY NAME] has yet to comply with the narrowbanding requirement and intends to take [INSERT STEPS TO COMPLY] by [INSERT DATE].

[INSERT AGENCY NAME] intends to complete narrowbanding and [INSERT Description of Communications Capabilities that will be Gained/Lost after Narrowbanding].

[INSERT AGENCY NAME] is taking [INSERT ACTION] to ensure operability and interoperability is maintained during and following the narrowband transition.

B.2 Land Mobile Radio System Overview

This section describes the current state, desired future state, and the path [INSERT REGION NAME] intends to take to achieve voice communications interoperability.

B.2.1 Current State of LMR in the Region

The following checklist provides a summary description of the current state of LMR within [INSERT REGION NAME]:

Check all that apply.

1. System types

☐ VHF ☐ UHF ☐ 700 MHz ☐ 800MHz

☐ Analog ☐ Digital ☐ Trunked ☐ Conventional

2. Gateways (if required)

☐ ACU1000 ☐ Network Switch ☐ ISSI

☐ Console Patch ☐ Other _____ (Insert Name)

3. Estimated fixed transmitter sites

☐ 1-5 ☐ 6-8 ☐ 9-10

☐ 11-14 ☐ 15-18 ☐ _____ (fill in estimated number of sites)

4. Will sites be connected for seamless roaming?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Common State interoperability channels to be used throughout the region:

☐ VHF ☐ UHF ☐ 700 MHz ☐ 800 MHz

☐ Other __ (provide name)

6. Agency Narrowbanded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Agency Rebanded for 800 MHz?

☐ Yes ☐ No

B.2.2 Designated LMR Radio System

This section identifies and provides point of contact (POC) information for the radio system(s) that comprise the region's LMR systems. The system(s) listed below are the designated public safety emergency communications system(s) for this region. Regions may find detailed information on these system(s) in the Communications Assets Survey and Mapping (CASM) tool. For additional information, please contact your CASM Administrative Manager [INSERT CASM MANAGER CONTACT INFORMATION].

Table B-1. Regional Radio Systems

System Name	Primary Location	POC Name and Emergency Contact Information

B.2.3 Definitions, Channel Naming, and Radio Programming Requirements

This section provides specific details on channel definitions, channel naming conventions, and special LMR programming requirements for the [INSERT REGION NAME]'s radio systems.

Channel Definitions

[INSERT CHANNEL DEFINITION 1]

[INSERT CHANNEL DEFINITION 2]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL CHANNEL DEFINITIONS]

Channel Naming Convention

[INSERT CHANNEL NAME SCHEME 1]

[INSERT CHANNEL NAME SCHEME 2]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL CHANNEL NAME SCHEMES]

Radio Programming Requirements

[INSERT RADIO PROGRAMMING REQUIREMENT 1]

[INSERT RADIO PROGRAMMING REQUIREMENT 2]

[INSERT ADDITIONAL RADIO PROGRAMMING REQUIREMENTS]

B.2.4 Regional Shared Channels

Table B-2. Regional Shared Channel(s)

Channel Name	Primary Use	Agencies Supported	Frequency/Band

B.2.5 Interoperability Testing Requirements

During standardized testing, the testing agency will communicate with participating public safety and public service agencies on the intra-jurisdictional interoperability channel. There will be two different types of radio testing:

Communications Center Testing

This weekly test of interoperability channels, which occurs every [INSERT DAY AND TIME], will be performed between the public safety and public service dispatch/radio communication centers [INSERT APPROPRIATE AGENCY NAMES]. The agency radio technician will monitor the appropriate channels during testing.

Operational Testing

Each agency will decide when testing should take place. All agency heads or designated representatives with radios programmed to interoperability channels will participate in this testing. During this test, technical support will check the accuracy and performance of various sites.

B.2.6 Regional Gateways

—Gateway" systems interconnect channels of disparate systems (whether on different frequency bands or radio operating modes), allowing emergency responders using existing radios and channels to connect to the channels of other users outside of their agency. Dispatch consoles that are able to create patches should also be recorded as gateways. Gateways for regional use should be listed in the following table B-3 along with POC information for Gateway owner agency.

Table B-3. Regional Gateway Systems

Gateway Name	Owning Agency	Agency Emergency Phone Number	Manufacturer Information	Additional Information (Dedicated Radios, Frequency Bands, etc.)

B.2.7 Regional Cache Radios

Cache radios, also known as —swapped radios," refer to a cache of standby radios that can be deployed to support regional incidents. These radios may be from a regional cache or from a participating agency. These radios allow responders to use common, compatible equipment during an incident. Specific caches within the [INSERT REGION NAME] are listed in table B-4.

Table B-4. [INSERT REGION NAME] Radio Cache(s)

Quantity	Make/ Model	Frequency Bands	Owning/ Managing Agency	POC	Onsite Programming
					Y / N
					Y / N

All [INSERT REGION NAME] radio caches are required to have the following naming conventions (channels/talkgroups) programmed:

Table B-5. [INSERT REGION NAME] Channels/Talkgroups Programmed in Radio Cache(s)

Channel Name	Agency Name

B.2.7 Mobile Communications Units

A mobile communications unit (MCU)—also known as a Mobile Communications Center or Mobile Emergency Operations Center—refers to any vehicular asset that can be deployed to provide or supplement communications capabilities in an incident area. An MCU can house communications devices such as subscriber and base station radios of various frequency bands, gateway devices, satellite phones, wireless computer networks, and video broadcasting/receiving equipment. Typically, these communications devices are permanently located in the MCU when not in use. The MCU has equipment, such as a generator, to provide the electrical power required to operate the communications devices.

Table B-6. [INSERT REGION NAME] Mobile Communications Units

Type of MCU	Owning Agency	Deployment Area	POC Name and Emergency Contact Information

B.2.8 LMR SOPs

[INSERT SPECIFIC DETAILS ON THE CURRENT SOPS FOR LMR SYSTEMS IN THE REGION.]

B.3 Desired Future State of LMR in the Region

[INSERT A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE DESIRED FUTURE STATE OF LMR SYSTEMS IN THE REGION.]

B.3.1 Regional System of Systems

Detailed below is how [INSERT REGION NAME] plans to approach to achieve a regional Systems of Systems.

B.3.2 Regional Radio System Characteristics and Description

The vision of the [INSERT REGION NAME] is to build a public safety regional radio system with the following characteristics:

Check all that apply.

1. System types

☐ VHF ☐ UHF ☐ 700 MHz ☐ 800MHz

☐ Analog ☐ Digital ☐ Trunked ☐ Conventional

2. Gateways (if required)

☐ ACU1000 ☐ Network Switch ☐ ISSI

☐ Console Patch ☐ Other _____ (Insert Name)

3. Estimated fixed transmitter sites

☐ 1-5 ☐ 6-8 ☐ 9-10

☐ 11-14 ☐ 15-18 ☐ _____ (fill in estimated number of sites)

4. Will sites be connected for seamless roaming?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Common State interoperability channels to be used throughout the region:

☐ VHF ☐ UHF ☐ 700 MHz ☐ 800 MHz

☐ Other __ (provide name)

6. Regional radio system description:

[INSERT DESCRIPTION OF REGIONAL RADIO SYSTEM]

B.4 Data Systems Overview

Described below is an overview of [INSERT REGION NAME] data systems.

B.4.1 Current State of Data Communications Interoperability within the Region

[INSERT A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENT STATE OF DATA COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY WITHIN THE REGION.]

B.4.2 Desired Future State of Data Communications Interoperability in the Region

[INSERT A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF WHAT THE FUTURE STATE OF DATA COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY LOOKS LIKE FOR THE REGION.]

B.4.3. Data Interoperability Roadmap and Initiatives in the Region

[HOW THE REGION INTENDS TO MIGRATE TO THE FUTURE STATE AND PROVIDE A ROADMAP TO ACHIEVE DATA COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY.]

Appendix C: Regional Emergency Resource Information

Information contained in this Appendix includes detailed regional information concerning assets, resources, and personnel. Retaining this information in an appendix enables regions to easily update the information without having to modify the entire RICP.

C.1 Emergency Resource Directory

The Emergency Resource Directory (table C-1) lists personnel who have trained and exercised to a regional response level as Communications Unit support. Once completed, the Directory can be used at incident sites to identify and contact specific incident emergency resource personnel.

Job descriptions and qualified personnel for each Communications Unit position are detailed in Appendix C, section 2 – Communications Structure.

Additional information about COMLs and other components of incident communications management can also be found at the DHS OEC website at:
http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1286984043354.shtm

Table C-1. Regional Emergency Resource Personnel

	Name	Agency	Address	Phone	E-mail
Communication Coordinator					
COML					
Incident Communications Center Manager					
Radio Operator					

	Name	Agency	Address	Phone	E-mail
Cache Technical Specialist					
Gateway Technical Specialist					
Other Technical Specialist					

C.2 Communications Structure

The following describes the Communications Structure for [INSERT REGION NAME].

C.2.1 Communications Unit Leader

Table C-2. Regional Certified COML(s)

COML Name	Associated with Agency/County	Phone/Pager Numbers	E-mail	Mailing Address

COMLs within the region should be provided with a complete inventory of all regional, jurisdictional, and agency interoperable equipment. A current inventory list will also be available in the CASM tool. All regional interoperability equipment will be exercised a minimum of [INSERT NUMBER] times per year by emergency responders across disciplines and levels of government.

C.3 Public Safety Answering Points

Table C-3 provides a list off all local and regional Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), the agencies dispatched by each PSAP, and point of contacts (POCs) and emergency contact information for the PSAP and dispatched agencies.

Table C-3. Public Safety Answering Points and Agencies Dispatched

PSAP Name	Mailing Address of PSAP	PSAP POC Name	PSAP Emergency Contact Information (including e-mail)	Public Safety Agencies Dispatched by PSAP	Agency POC Name	Agency POC Emergency Contact Information

C.4 Volunteer Fire Departments

Table C-4. 501c3 Volunteer Fire Departments

Volunteer FD (VDF) Agency Name	Mailing Address of VFD	POC Name	Emergency Contact Information

C.5 Commercial Wireless Service Dependencies

Commercial wireless data circuits may be widely used for back haul for most of the radio systems in the region. Table C-5 lists all commercial wireless service providers used by public safety agencies in the region.

Table C-5. Wireless Service Providers

Commercial Wireless Service Provider	POC Name	Emergency Contact Information

C.6 Alternative Communications

Several alternatives may be identified by [INSERT REGION NAME] to ensure that interoperable communications remain available among all agencies if the interoperability channel is not available. A sample list of alternatives is provided below.

Details about each of these alternative communications means is also provided below.

Telephone Conference Bridges

Telephone conference bridges permit direct communication among a number of users, assuming they have access to telephone services.

[INSERT TELEPHONE CONFERENCE BRIDGE INFORMATION]

Cellular/Push-to-Talk Commercial Wireless Technology

Currently, most agencies use cellular/push-to-talk commercial wireless communications technology. In the event that the intra-jurisdictional interoperability channel is malfunctioning, this technology may be used to disseminate critical information to department heads and/or designees.

[INSERT CELLULAR/PUSH-TO-TALK COMMERCIAL WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY]

Computerized Emergency Notification System

A computerized emergency notification system is programmed to contact specific individuals and agencies, depending on the nature of the incident. Those contacted may include appropriate media outlets that could be used to inform the general public of situation updates, specific instructions, and/or emergency locations, if warranted.

[INSERT SPECIFIC COMPUTERIZED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM INFORMATION]

Internet/E-mail

When conventional communications outlets (e.g., wireless phones, land lines) are either damaged or overwhelmed, the Internet is available to provide an invaluable service to the general public. In the same way, the region's online Emergency Operations Center (EOC) can be used as a means to pass information to various agencies that are involved in the event. Details or reference for those procedures for [INSERT REGION NAME] are defined below:

[INSERT INTERNET/E-MAIL EMERGENCY USE INFORMATION]

Satellite Phones

Satellite phones may be assigned to agency heads for intercommunications if conventional phone lines become impaired. A cache of satellite phones will be stored at [INSERT LOCATION] and assigned for use by the Emergency Management Agency director and/or operations officer.

[INSERT SATELLITE PHONE NUMBERS.]

Dispatch/Radio Communications Center to Dispatch/Radio Communications Center Messaging

[INSERT REGION NAME] has the following capabilities for dispatch center to dispatch center messaging capability.

- [INSERT CAPABILITY 1]
- [INSERT CAPABILITY 2]
- [INSERT ADDITIONAL CAPABILITIES]

Amateur Radio Resources

Amateur radio operators (also known as "ham radio operators") provide a valuable service in times of need. They are licensed by the FCC and are permitted to operate on a broad range of frequencies dedicated for their use. Ham radio operators typically provide their communications equipment (fixed and portable) to serve organizations such as EOCs and shelters when requested. Frequently, licensed amateurs voluntarily associate with groups or teams, such as:

- Amateur Radio Emergency Service
- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service
- Military Auxiliary Radio System

Amateur radio teams in [INSERT REGION NAME] are listed in **table C-7**.

Table C-7. Amateur Radio Teams POC

Name/Location	E-mail	Phone	Organization	Call-sign

Runner System

In the unlikely event that the intra-jurisdictional interoperability channel and redundant back-up systems are unavailable, the police department will arrange for a ―runner system" in which designated personnel respond to the residence of department heads and other key agency representatives to make notifications and provide transportation as necessary. [INSERT REGION NAME] uses the following runner system:

[INSERT RUNNER SYSTEM DESCRIPTION]

C.7 Fuel Re-Supply Plan

[INSERT FUEL RE-SUPPLY PLAN FOR REGION NAME COMMUNICATIONS SITES AND EQUIPMENT]

C.8 Regional Training and Exercises Plans

[INSERT REGION NAME's REGIONAL TRAINING AND EXERCISE PLANS]

C.8.1 Planned Training Exercises

The following training exercises for [INSERT REGION NAME] which are planned for [INSERT TIME PERIOD]:

C.8.2 Communications-Specific Tabletop Exercises

If training concerns are significant throughout the region, the [INSERT NAME OF SUBCOMMITTEE] will study and evaluate the benefits of using the SAFECOM guide, Communications-Specific Tabletop Exercise (TTX) Methodology, to create regional TTXs specific to their identified needs. The guide provides a detailed, step-by-step approach to effectively plan, conduct, and evaluate an interoperable communications-specific TTX. This methodology will result in exercises that have been developed and executed to help localities identify interoperability capabilities and gaps within their existing processes.

Appendix D: Regional Strategy Initiative Project Plan

The table below offers Regions a template format for regional strategy initiative project planning.

Initiative Name:		
Project Lead: Rest of Team: Recruitment Needs: Estimated Cost:		
Task	**Owner**	**Due Date**
Who Is Missing / Who Do We Need to Recruit:		

Potential Obstacles	**Mitigation Strategies**

Appendix E: [Other Information]

[INSERT ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE RICP IN THIS APPENDIX. CHANGE THE TITLE ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION INCLUDED.]

Appendix F: Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP)-Related Reference Materials

This Appendix provides supplementary reference material that may be useful to regions when completing the RICP. Retaining this information in an appendix enables the SIGB to add information that may applicable to their State and provide updates without having to modify the entire RICP.

F.1 Communications Capabilities

Critical Tasks

(Note: The communication capabilities [ComC] information provided in the following bullets is from the Target Capabilities List [TCL]. Please see the following website for more information on the TCL: http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/training/tcl.pdf).

- ComC 1 – Develop communication plans, policies, procedures, and systems that support required communications with all Federal, State, regional, local, and tribal governments and agencies as well as voluntary agencies.
- ComC 1.4 – Design reliable, redundant, and robust communications systems for daily operations capable of quickly reconstituting normal operations in the event of disruption or destruction.
- ComC 1.7.2 – Coordinate procurement and placement of technology communication systems based on a gap analysis of requirements versus existing capabilities.

Preparedness Measures

- Operable communications systems that are supported by redundancy and diversity, that provide service across jurisdictions, and that meet everyday internal agency requirements, are in place.
- Communications standard operating procedures (SOPs) that conform to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) are in place and are used in routine multiple jurisdictional responses.
- A multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional governance structure to improve communications interoperability planning and coordination has been established.
- Formal interoperable communications agreements have been established through the governance structure.

F.2 Communications Structure

Incident Types

Incidents may be categorized, or typed, in order to make decisions about resource requirements. Incident types are based on the five levels of complexity as defined by the U.S. Fire Administration.

For more information, see the NIMS website at http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/.

Type 5

- The incident can be handled with one or two resources, with up to six personnel.
- Command and general staff positions (other than the Incident Commander [IC]) are not activated.
- No written Incident Action Plan (IAP) is required.
- The incident is contained within the first operational period and often within one hour to a few hours after resources arrive on the scene.
- Examples include a vehicle fire, an injured person, or a police traffic stop.

Type 4

- Command staff and general staff functions are activated only if needed.
- Several resources are required to mitigate the incident.
- The incident is usually limited to one operational period in the control phase.
- The agency administrator may have briefings and ensure the complexity analysis and delegation of authority is updated.
- No written IAP is required, but a documented operational briefing will be completed for all incoming resources.
- The role of the agency administrator includes implementing operational plans including objectives and priorities.

Type 3

- When capabilities exceed initial attack, the appropriate Incident Command System (ICS) positions should be added to match the complexity of the incident.
- Some or all of the command and general staff positions may be activated, as well as Division/Group Supervisor and/or Unit Leader positions.
- A Type 3 Incident Management Team or incident command organization manages initial action incidents with a significant number of resources, an extended attack incident until containment/control is achieved, or an expanding incident until transition to a Type 1 or Type 2 team.
- The incident may extend into multiple operational periods.
- A written IAP may be required for each operational period.

Type 2

- This type of incident extends beyond the capabilities for local control and is expected to go into multiple operational periods.
- This type of incident may require the response of resources out of area, including regional and/or national resources, to effectively manage the operations, command, and general staffing.
- Most or all of the command and general staff positions are filled.
- A written IAP is required for each operational period.
- Many of the functional units are needed and staffed.
- Operations personnel normally do not exceed 200 per operational period and total incident personnel do not exceed 500 (guidelines only).
- The agency administrator is responsible for the incident complexity analysis, agency administrator briefings, and the written delegation of authority.

Type 1

- This type of incident is the most complex, requiring national resources to safely and effectively manage and operate.
- All command and general staff positions are activated.
- Operations personnel often exceed 500 per operational period, and total personnel will usually exceed 1,000.

- Branches need to be established.
- The agency administrator will have briefings and ensure that the complexity analysis and delegation of authority are updated.
- Use of resource advisors at the incident base is recommended.
- There is a high impact on the local jurisdiction, requiring additional staff for office administrative and support functions.

Figure D-1 is an example of an expanded organization chart for incident management at a major incident. It includes the Communications Unit Leader (COML) position in the Logistics section. A full description of the duties and responsibilities of the COML can be found in the COML Student Manual, developed by the DHS OEC. Information on the COML training program can be found at http://www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/currentprojects/comltraining/comltraining.htm.

Creating a table or illustration that depicts command levels and roles within agencies clarifies the relationship among users. It is imperative that all agencies use ICS as well as NIMS to manage all incidents. As recommended in ICS and NIMS, plain language shall be used when communicating on the calling and tactical channels. It is the responsibility of the IC to determine when to use the national calling and tactical channels; however, the following criteria should be met as a minimum:

- Multi-agency/multi-jurisdictional disasters or emergencies involving imminent danger to life and property
- Special event control activities, generally of a pre-planned nature and generally involving joint participation of two or more public safety agencies
- Drills, exercises, and training sessions

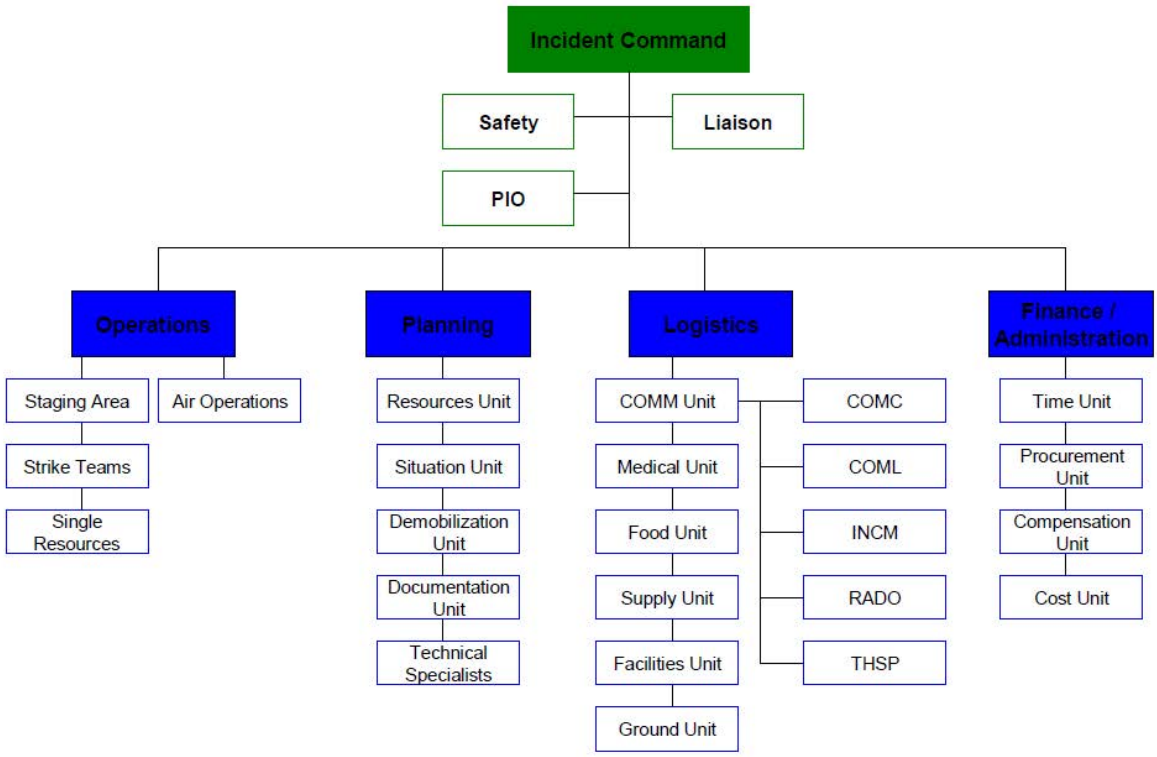

Figure D-1: Incident Management – Major Incident

Dispatch Center

Communications Coordinator (COMC) – Works with the COML to coordinate communications with other dispatch centers and the incident communication plan. The local dispatch center supervisor or dispatcher will act as the COMC. Coordinators may also be located at the Federal, State, regional, and local levels.

At an Incident/Event

COML – Manages the technical and operational aspects of the communications function during an incident or event. Develops NIMS/ICS Form 205 Incident Radio Communications Plan and supervises the Communications Unit.

Technical Specialist (THSP) – Allows for the incorporation of personnel who may not be formally certified in a specific NIMS/ICS position. THSPs may include Local Agency Radio Technicians (as opposed to the Incident Communications Technician), Telephone Specialists, Gateway Specialists, Data/IT Specialists, and/or Cache Radio Specialists.

Incident Communications Technician – Deploys advanced equipment and keeps it operational throughout the incident/event.

Incident Communications Center Manager – Supervises the operational aspects of the Incident Communications Center (ICC) (Mobile Unit and/or Fixed Facility). During an incident, the ICC is designed to absorb incident traffic in order to separate that traffic from the day-to-day activities of the dispatch center. The ICC is typically located at the Incident Command Post (ICP) in a fixed site, tent, trailer, or Mobile Communications Unit (MCU).

F.3 MCU Policies and Procedures

The IC or their designee determines when a situation exists that requires the use of an MCU and notifies the appropriate dispatch center. The dispatch center will follow internal agency procedures to contact the COML or MCU POC and relay pertinent information regarding the event. The requesting agency documents and provides the following information to the MCU POC, on request:

- Requesting agency
- Agencies requiring interoperability
- Incident/event type (e.g., wild land fire)
- Expected duration of the event
- Location required/access information
- Incident POC
- User/requestor and/or servicing dispatch POC phone number
- Additional support services requested

The MCU agency determines if the MCU is available for use and coordinates its deployment with the requesting agency's IC or designee.

F.4 Use of Interoperability Channels

Incident Command System (ICS)

Each agency will use ICS as an operational guide at large-scale incidents. Radio communications procedures on the interoperability channels must be consistent with NIMS.

Appropriate Use of Interoperability Channels

The use of interoperability channels is limited to their designated purpose of coordination between emergency response agencies, dispatchers, and resources in the field. Such coordination may occur during en-route travel, exercises, or on-scene response.

The interoperability channels are not to be used for routine dispatch operations but may be used by dispatchers for communications with personnel in the field, in accordance with local and regional policies and procedures. Tactical interoperability channels may be used for day-to-day emergency operations in the absence of higher-priority events.

Use of interoperability channels shall be prioritized as follows:

1. Emergency or urgent operations involving imminent danger to life or property
2. Disaster or extreme emergency operations requiring extensive interoperability and inter-agency communications
3. Special events, generally of a pre-planned nature
4. Joint training exercises
5. Inter-agency and en-route communications in accordance with local and regional policies and procedures
6. Day-to-day tactical communications on scene

F.4.1 Limited Use Activation of Interoperability Channels

Limited Use - Limited use of interoperability channels is appropriate when an incident can be resolved by public safety or public service agencies.

Radio Channel Activation Authority

The use of interoperability channels may be requested whenever an agency determines there is a need to communicate directly with other agency representatives who have access to the channel. Each agency has the right to use the channels, as necessary, for public safety, according to the availability of necessary resources. It is important to note that the use of the channels is not intended to replace the establishment of an on-scene unified command post among responding agencies. Interoperability channels are intended to assist communications until a command post can be established. These channels can be used to speak with an agency representative not yet on the scene.

Establishing and Transferring Lead Dispatch Radio Command Control

The IC, identifying the need for interoperable communications, will contact his or her respective dispatch/radio communications center (e.g., mayor's office; a police, fire, or emergency medical services [EMS] dispatch center). The IC will request that specific agencies switch their radios to the designated interoperability channel(s). The dispatch/radio communications center of the agency that initiates use of the interoperability channel(s) is responsible for notifying all other required agencies by radio or telephone in accordance with the procedures outlined in this SOP. The dispatch/radio communications center will become the lead dispatch/radio communications center.

The lead dispatch/radio communications center may be changed as the lead agency requires or requests. If the IC is transferred, the new IC will notify his or her respective dispatch/radio communications center by radio or telephone that he or she is the new IC for the agency. That dispatch/radio communications center will then become the lead dispatch/radio communications center of the designated interoperability channel(s).

Notification Process for Establishing Command Control

Each agency participating in the incident will follow its own internal notification procedures for establishing command and control. The mayor, county judge, police chief, fire chief, EMS chief, and emergency management agency director or their designees are authorized to activate the interoperability channel(s).

Discontinuation of Interoperability Channel Use

When the interoperability channel(s) are no longer required, the IC of the lead agency will notify his or her respective dispatch/radio communications center to discontinue active use of the channel(s), and normal monitoring will resume. The lead dispatch/radio communication center will notify all participating dispatch/radio communications centers that the interoperability channel(s) are no longer in use.

F.5 Interoperability Channel Monitoring and Operation

Interoperability Calling Channel Monitoring

Each dispatch communications center will monitor interoperability channels on a daily basis, as defined in the State's interoperability channel plan http://tsiec.region49.org/MOU+TSICP01-22-08.pdf.

Interoperability Channel Operation

Per the State's interoperability channel plan, all FCC interoperability repeaters will be maintained in "receive mode" for monitoring purposes. Repeaters will be disabled for transmit operation until needed for two-way communication. This prevents interference with repeaters in adjacent jurisdictions that operate on the same interoperability frequencies.

F.6 Prioritization and Shared Use of Regional Interoperability Assets

There may be competing demands and priorities for interoperable communications assets when responding to events or incidents that cross over political jurisdictions.

Until the Incident Command (IC) is established, the lead agency designee (e.g., communications supervisor, command personnel), in cooperation with assisting agencies, will have the authority to designate the use of interoperable assets. Once Incident Command has been established, the Communications Unit or COMLs (when designated) will direct the further coordination and delegation of the interoperable communications assets assigned to the event or incident in question.

Agencies should judiciously activate the necessary interoperable assets to effectively respond to the event and/or incident, and to minimize any negative impact on the surrounding agencies or jurisdictions. Specifically, interoperable communications should be undertaken with the following order of operations in mind (subject to variability based on the agencies involved and the nature of the event/incident):

1. Leverage face-to-face communications wherever possible. For example, the co-location of all command and general staff at the ICP provides the best direct communications and reduces the demand on interoperability resources.
2. Employ local communications assets until those assets become overtaxed or inadequate based on the nature and/or scope of the incident.
3. If response agencies use a shared system, utilize that shared system to establish interoperable communications.
4. If response agencies operate on disparate systems, utilize shared or mutual aid channels to establish interoperable communications.
5. If response agencies do not share systems or channels, utilize a gateway solution to establish interoperable communications.
6. Where interoperable communications cannot otherwise be established between response agencies, utilize swap or cache radios to establish operable communications for responders.
7. If no other method of interoperability can be established, relay communications through staff members.

When the same resources are requested for two or more incidents, resource assignments should be based on the priority levels listed below:

- Disasters, large-scale incidents, or extreme emergencies requiring mutual aid or interagency communications
- Incidents where imminent danger exists to life or property
- Incidents requiring the response of multiple agencies
- Pre-planned events requiring mutual aid or interagency communications
- Incidents involving a single agency where supplemental communications are needed for agency use
- Drills, tests, and exercises

In the event of multiple simultaneous incidents within the same priority level, the resources should be allocated with the following priorities in mind:

1. Incidents with the greatest level of demand (e.g., greater threat to life or property, more immediate need) have priority over less urgent incidents.
2. Agencies with single/limited interoperable options have priority over agencies with multiple interoperable options.
3. When at all possible, agencies already using an interoperable asset during an event should not be redirected to another resource.

Appendix G: Glossary and Common Interoperability Terminology

Item/Acronym	Definition
AAR	After Action Report
ACU-1000	Audio bridge used in fixed and mobile configurations. Requires radios from each connected communications system. Gateway device used to link disparate radio systems.
AM	Administrative Manager
Audio Bridge	Connects four-wire audio from disparate radio systems to provide interoperability.
CAM	Communication Assets Mapping
CAS	Communication Assets Survey
CASM	Communication Assets Survey and Mapping
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
COMC	Communications Coordinator
COML	Communications Unit Leader
COMT	Communications Technician
Console Patching	Ability to connect channels via dispatch consoles
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESF	Emergency Support Function
ETA	Estimated Time of Arrival
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency

IC	Incident Command(er)
ICC	Incident Communications Center
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
ICTAP	Interoperable Communications Technology Assistance Program
ID	Identification
INCM	Incident Communications Center Manager
Inter-agency	Located or occurring between two or more agencies
Interoperable	Ability of a system to use the parts or equipment of another system
ISSI	Inter-RF Subsystem Interface
IT	Information Technology
IWG	Interoperability Working Group
JFO	Joint Field Office
LMR	Land Mobile Radio
MACS	Multi-Agency Coordination System
MCC	Mobile Communication Center
MCU	Mobile Communications Unit
MHz	Abbreviation for megahertz. 5 MHz = 5,000,000 Hz or 5,000 kHz.
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
Mutual Aid	Personnel, equipment, or services provided to another jurisdiction
NECP	National Emergency Communications Plan
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NPSPAC	National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee
NRF	National Response Framework

NSSE	National Special Security Event
OEC	Office of Emergency Communications
PD	Police Department
POC	Point of Contact
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service
RADO	Radio Operator
RF	Radio Frequency
RFSS	Radio Frequency Sub-System
RGOV	Regional Governance Structures
RIC	Regional Interoperability Coordinator
RICP	Regional Interoperable Communications Plan
RIGG	Regional Intrastate Governance Guide
RIMP	Regional Interoperable Migration Plan
RLO	Regional Liaison Officer
RSOP	Regional Standard Operating Procedure
SCC	State Coordinator for Communications
SCIP	Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan
SIGB	Statewide Interoperability Governance Board
SIEC	Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
SME	Subject Matter Expert
SOC	State Operations Center
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
Talkgroup	Term usually used with trunked radio systems. A talkgroup is a pre-defined list of radios/users assigned a unique ID that allows them to communicate with each other over the trunked radio system.

TCL	Target Capabilities List
THSP	Technical Specialist
TICP	Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan
TTX	Table Top Exercise
UASI	Urban Areas Security Initiative
UHF	Ultra High Frequency – Range of 300 to 3,000 MHz. For public safety land mobile radio, usually refers to two bands: 380 to 460 MHz (low) and 460 to 512 MHz (high).
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VFD	Volunteer Fire Department
VHF	Very High Frequency – For public safety land mobile radio, usually refers to VHF High Band with a range of 136 to 164 MHz. VHF Low Band has a frequency range below 100 MHz.
VPM	Vendor Project Manager

Appendix H: Reference and Resources

Below are the references and resources utilized in the RICP guidance and template development.

[Regions should insert or delete based on final RICP.]

Department of Homeland Security Target Capabilities List –

http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/training/tcl.pdf

Department of Homeland Security Universal Task List –

http://www.wcdps.org/publicsafety/lib/publicsafety/documents/urbanthunder/universal_task_list_2_0.pdf

National Emergency Communications Plan –

http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/national_emergency_communications_plan.pdf

National Preparedness Guidelines –

http://www.dhs.gov/files/publications/gc_1189788256647.shtm

National Response Plan – http://www.fas.org/irp/agency/dhs/nrp.pdf

National Strategy for Homeland Security – http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/nat_strat_hls.pdf

Regional Intrastate Governance Guide for Interoperable Emergency Communications Efforts –

http://www.dhs.gov/files/publications/gc_1285865538920.shtm

SAFECOM program – http://www.safecomprogram.gov

Statewide Interoperability Planning Guidebook –

http://www.region49.org/txrc/files/DHS_Statewide_Interop_Planning_Guidebook_3-12-07.pdf

The System of Systems Approach for Interoperable Communications -

http://www.safecomprogram.gov/NR/rdonlyres/FD22B528-18B7-4CB1-AF49-F9626C608290/0/SOSApproachforInteroperableCommunications_02.pdf

Texas Regional Interoperable Communications Plan –

http://www.region49.org/txrc/RICP_documents.html

Texas SCIP – http://www.region49.org/txrc/files/Texas_SCIP.pdf

Texas SCIP Implementation Report – http://www.region49.org/txrc/files/2009_SCIP_Implementation_Report_072809_FINAL.pdf