OEC COORDINATION FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Emergency communications are vital nationwide: in the public sector at every jurisdiction, and in the private sector across all critical infrastructure sectors and non-governmental organizations. Being able to communicate before, during, and after an incident requires coordination across all critical infrastructure and non-governmental organizations. To help achieve this, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) established the Regional Coordination program to strengthen emergency communications and response capabilities across federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial (FSLTT) governments through trusted relationships, collaboration, knowledge sharing, and program development.

OEC COORDINATORS

OEC Coordinators support preparedness, communications coordination, and the improvement of resiliency for public and commercial communications infrastructures across the nation. These consist of public safety communications networks, commercial communications, wireline, wireless, satellite, land mobile radio and broadband infrastructure.

OEC Coordinators’ responsibilities include:

- Supporting the preparation, planning, coordination and improvement of the FSLTT agencies’ resilient emergency communications capabilities and operations;
- Providing OEC with feedback and assessments of emergency communications activities, accomplishments, issues, gaps, and constraints across the Nation;
- Offering emergency response and recovery assistance support to FSLTT authorities; and,
- Providing technical assistance, training and exercise support to governments in the development and deployment of communications programs and assets.

OUTREACH TO STAKEHOLDERS

OEC stakeholders consist of both public and private sector organizations, including representatives of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, emergency communications organizations, non-governmental organizations, and private sector companies. Examples of these stakeholders include:

- Public safety organizations and first responders; law enforcement agencies, fire departments, emergency medical services, public safety answering points; public health departments; federal response and enforcement agencies;
- State and local government representatives, including Homeland Security Advisors, Statewide Interoperability Coordinators, Chief Information Officers, State 911 Directors, and Directors of Emergency Management;
- Associations and non-governmental organizations at regional and state levels, including American Red Cross and Utilities Telecom Council.
PAST OEC COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT INCLUDES

- **Super Bowl XLVII and XLIX:** Provided aid with communications planning support and communications concept of operations planning; conducted training briefings for first responders; served as the Federal Communications Coordinator; volunteer Communications Unit Leader (COML) and liaison between federal, state and local entities.

- **Selma March 50th Anniversary:** Provided communications planning; coordinated the provision of Priority Telecommunications Services, (Government Emergency Telecommunications Service/Wireless Priority Service) to first responders and relevant public safety personnel.

- **2015 World Alpine Ski Championship:** Provided recommendations and enhancements to the current emergency communications plans, as well as pre and day-of event support to emergency communications staff.

- **Quapaw Tri-State Interoperable Communications Tabletop Exercise:** Coordinated a table top exercise in an effort to design, facilitate, and evaluate emergency communications.

- **Support of Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program:** Communications Unit Leader Training, Communications Unit Technician Training, Communications Table-Top Exercises, and other Technical Assistance offerings.

- **Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR):** Supported 2012 Democratic and Republican National Conventions.

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**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please contact OEC@dhs.gov or visit www.dhs.gov/oec.