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| <p>REGIONAL WIRELESS COOPERATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</p> |  <p>Regional Wireless Cooperative</p> |
| | <p>No. O-06.11</p> |
| <p>Subject: Interoperability Talkgroups Procedure</p> | <p>Effective Date 3/23/11 Rev: 07/07/2020 10/01/2019</p> |

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this procedure is to support the use of interoperability talkgroups.

2.0 Owner

- 2.1. RWC Operations Working Group (OWG)

3.0 Applies To

- 3.1. All Members, Associates, Conditional Participants, and Interoperability Participants that have access to RWC interoperability talkgroups.

4.0 Background

- 4.1. To facilitate interoperable communications, the RWC identified talkgroups to be used for intermittent interoperable situations. This is to include planned multi-agency special events, emergency situations and other unplanned operations. Talkgroups have been configured as either unencrypted or encrypted.
- 4.2. In most cases day-to-day communications will take place on RWC Member operational talkgroups. In the following situations, agencies will need to move communications to interoperability talkgroups:
 - 4.2.1. To communicate with other users who do not have the agency's internal talk group(s).
 - 4.2.2. To allow another user to monitor communications when they do not have access to the agency's internal talk group(s).

5.0 Policy Statement

- 5.1. Interoperability talkgroups are used to facilitate communications between agencies that do not communicate with each other on a routine basis.
- 5.2. Interoperability talkgroups can support effective command and control of major incidents under the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

6.0 Supporting Rules

- 6.1. Standard interoperability talkgroups are located in G, L and O decks.
- 6.2. Encrypted interoperability talkgroups are located in H and P decks.
 - 6.2.1. Encrypted talkgroups may be used between RWC Members and authorized interoperability participants.
 - 6.2.2. Approval for use of encrypted talkgroups will be managed by exception.
- 6.3. The use of any RWC Interoperability talkgroup must be coordinated by an RWC Member.
- 6.4. When the same resources are requested for two or more incidents, assignments should be based on the priority levels listed below:
 - 6.4.1. Priority 1: Disasters, large scale incidents, or extreme emergencies requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.
 - 6.4.2. Priority 2: Incidents where imminent danger exists to life or property.
 - 6.4.3. Priority 3: Other incidents requiring the response of multiple agencies.
 - 6.4.4. Priority 4: Pre-planned events requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.
 - 6.4.5. Priority 5: Incidents involving a single agency where supplemental communications are needed for short term agency use.
 - 6.4.6. Drills, tests and exercises.
- 6.5. In the event of multiple simultaneous incidents within the same priority level, interoperability talkgroups should be allocated with the following priorities in mind:
 - 6.5.1. Incidents with the greatest level of exigency (e.g., greater threat to life or property, more immediate need) have priority over less exigent incidents.
 - 6.5.2. Agencies with single/limited interoperable options have priority use of those options over agencies with multiple interoperable options.
 - 6.5.3. When at all possible, agencies already using an interoperable asset during an event should not be redirected to another resource.
- 6.6. Use of interoperability decks may be requested by any RWC member. The RWC member must check the electronic interoperability scheduler to identify an available talk group.
 - 6.6.1. The RWC member involved in the operation must be the one that reserves the talk group on the scheduler.
 - 6.6.2. All scheduler appointments must include contact information, including email address, phone number and agency name.
 - 6.6.3. Any non-RWC member that needs to reserve an interoperability talk group for a planned operation must make the request through the involved RWC member.
- 6.7. There is no support for emergency alert functions on any interoperability talkgroup.

- 6.8. RWC members do not provide dispatch monitoring for any interoperability talkgroup on a routine basis. Agencies must arrange for dispatch monitoring while planning their event.
- 6.9. There should be no expectation that the interoperability talkgroups are recorded.

7.0 Responsibilities

- 7.1. RWC members will ensure all interoperability deck repeaters are turned off when not in use.
- 7.2. Agencies using the interoperability talkgroups must use the following protocols:
- 7.2.1. Use only plain language, no codes or call types
 - 7.2.2. Identify their agency and unit's call sign at the start of each transmission
- 7.3. Interoperability deck talkgroups must be labeled the same on all subscribers as identified below.

| <i>ZONE</i> | <i>ZONE</i> | <i>ZONE</i> | <i>ZONE</i> | <i>ZONE</i> |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| G DECK | H DECK | L DECK | O DECK | P DECK |
| G01 INT A | H01 PS 01 | L01 FIREDISP | O01 OCEAN 01 | P01 EOS 01 |
| G02 INT B | H02 PS 02 | L02 EVENT 02 | O02 OCEAN 02 | P02 EOS 02 |
| G03 INT C | H03 PS 03 | L03 EVENT 03 | O03 OCEAN 03 | P03 EOS 03 |
| G04 INT D | H04 PS 04 | L04 EVENT 04 | O04 OCEAN 04 | P04 EOS 04 |
| G05 INT E | H05 PS 05 | L05 EVENT 05 | O05 OCEAN 05 | P05 EOS 05 |
| G06 INT F | H06 PS 06 | L06 EVENT 06 | O06 OCEAN 06 | P06 EOS 06 |
| G07 INT G | H07 PS 07 | L07 EVENT 07 | O07 OCEAN 07 | P07 EOS 07 |
| G08 INT H | H08 PS 08 | L08 EVENT 08 | O08 OCEAN 08 | P08 EOS 08 |
| G09 INT I | H09 PS 09 | L09 EVENT 09 | O09 OCEAN 09 | P09 EOS 09 |
| G10 INT J | H10 PS 10 | L10 EVENT 10 | O10 OCEAN 10 | P10 EOS 10 |
| G11 INT K | H11 PS 11 | L11 EVENT 11 | O11 OCEAN 11 | P11 EOS 11 |
| G12 INT L | H12 PS 12 | L12 EVENT 12 | O12 OCEAN 12 | P12 EOS 12 |
| G13 INT M | H13 PS 13 | L13 EVENT 13 | O13 OCEAN 13 | P13 EOS 13 |
| G14 INT N | H14 PS 14 | L14 EVENT 14 | O14 OCEAN 14 | P14 EOS 14 |
| G15 INT O | H15 PS 15 | L15 EVENT 15 | O15 OCEAN 15 | P15 EOS 15 |
| G16 DYNRGP | H16 PS 16 | L16 EVENT 16 | O16 OCEAN 16 | P16 EOS 16 |

8.0 Conditions for Exemption or Waiver

- 8.1. As provided in the Waiver or Exception Policy.

9.0 Applicable Procedures:

- 9.1. As listed at www.rwcaz.org.