

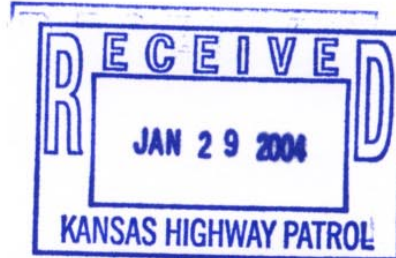
BUTLER COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ASSOCIATION



January 26, 2004

Col. William Seck
Kansas Highway Patrol
122 S.W. 7th
Topeka, Ks. 66603

Dear Col. Seck:



The Butler County Emergency Services Association is an association of emergency service agencies within Butler County that has united to find a solution to the communications problems and lack of inter-operability that has been plaguing our county for decades.

During our short time as an association we have come to learn that some of the same problems we face are shared with agencies statewide. Simply put, communications and inter-operability for Kansas (state wide) is in crisis. It is that lack of basic communication (for both voice and data), coupled with a lack of inter-operability between agencies and disciplines, which puts our emergency responders and the citizens we are sworn to protect in danger.

After realizing the importance of the issue at hand, we decided as an association to begin our own grass roots efforts to help bring this issue to the forefront. We took it upon ourselves to address every statewide emergency service association we knew of to ask for their support to upgrade the statewide system to allow for seamless voice and data communications between all agencies. ALL of the associations are in agreement, as is reflected in the attached letters. Initially, we anticipated delivering the letters to only three individuals. As a result, some associations drafted letters specifically to the persons we originally intended to contact, so I apologize for the lack of recipient specific information.

We sincerely hope that the knowledge that all emergency services in Kansas are united in support of this will help bring true inter-operability of voice and data in Kansas from concept to reality. We pledge our support as an association to assist you in any manner to help achieve this.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Sage, Chairman

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Chief Robert Sage
Rose Hill Police Department
P.O. Box 185
Rose Hill, Kansas 67133
(316) 776-0191

Vice-Chairman
Chief Tyler Brewer
Augusta Dept. of Safety
2100 North Ohio
Augusta, Kansas 67010
(316) 775-4500

Secretary
Major Ray Marbut
Augusta Dept. of Safety
2100 North Ohio
Augusta, Kansas 67010
(316) 775-4500

Voice & Data Communications Inter-Operability support letter cc recipient list.

1. Governor Kathleen Sebelius
2. Rep. Carl Holmes, Chairman, House Utilities Committee
3. Rep. Lee Tafaelli, Chairman, Homeland Security Legislative Committee
4. Rep. Carl Krehbiel, House Utilities Committee member
5. Rep. Everett Johnson
6. Sen. Less Donaven, Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee
7. Sen. Stan Clark, Chairman, Senate Utilities Committee
8. Sen. Jay Scott Emler
9. Sen. Anthony Hensley
10. Sen. Dave Corbin
11. Col. Tod Bunting, Adjutant General
12. Col. William Seck, Kansas Highway Patrol
13. Deb Miller, Secretary, Department of Transportation
14. Howard R. Fricke, Secretary, Department of Administration
15. David Lake, Chairman, Kansas Communications Committee
16. Gordon Lansford, Director, Kansas Criminal Justice Information System



December 16, 2003
Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, Governor
State Capitol, 300 S.W. 10th Ave., Ste. 212S
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Dear: Governor Sebelius

As president of the Kansas Emergency Management Assn. (KEMA), I pledge the support of KEMA in your efforts to ensure communications interoperability through the revision of the 800 Mhz radio system used by the State of Kansas. This project is long overdue and would greatly enhance the communications capability of state agencies during times of disaster.

We further recommend that the system be enhanced to include interoperability of local emergency responders. It's our understanding that the present capabilities are severely limited and do not allow space for local interfaces. Ideally the system should be used on a daily basis to both monitor the system for operational readiness and to allow a means for local responders to keep in touch with KHP personnel during daily emergencies

Our members are aware that the primary focus of the project is to ensure state agency use. Based on the various Homeland Security initiatives, we encourage broad thinking during the planning and design of the enhancements and recommend consideration for the integration of daily emergency responder interoperability.

We thank you for your attention to this issue. Please call me if you have any questions at (785) 537-6333.

Sincerely,

Patrick Collins, President
Kansas Emergency Management Assn.

Cc: Colonel William Seck

Kansas Chapter

APCO International

209 Hudson Ave
Oakley, KS 67748

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Kansas Turnpike Authority
9401 E. Kellogg
Wichita, Kansas 67207
(316) 682-4537 ext 2192

PAST PRESIDENT

Michele Abbott-Becker
Marion Co. Emergency Communications
P.O. Box 242
Marion, Kansas 66861
(620) 382-2145

Re: Communications Inter-operability

To Whom It May Concern:

It has been brought to the attention of the Kansas Chapter of APCO Organization that your organization is seeking support to improve emergency communications to promote the establishment of statewide radio inter-operability.

The Kansas Chapter of APCO, supports the concept of statewide communications. We do have reservations about the implementation of such an endeavor promoting the 800mhz system. The Kansas APCO Chapter is in complete agreement that there is a need for inter-operability. There is also concern over how such a project would be funded. It would be both prudent and beneficial for those looking at this issue to explore all options available. With thousands of emergency radios; emergency vehicle radios, hand held radios, pagers, mobile data terminals, main transmitters (base stations), control stations and console equipment , inter-operability will be a major project. With the majority of agencies requiring upgrades to accomplish this, it is imperative that an agency's budget be considered to make all upgrades possible.

It is the general consensus of our organization that even though the 800mhz system is installed throughout the state for limited range usage, the cost to join this system with local communications would be difficult if not impossible for some agencies to fund. We would encourage those addressing these issues to explore the many options of portable equipment, currently supported by the Homeland Security Plan for 2003 fiscal year that would meet this need in a more cost effective manner.

We concur that in these uncertain and security conscious times this project should become a priority issue for our state. As we are the communications center for local police, fire and law enforcement we appreciate the opportunity to voice our concerns on this issue. We would appreciate further involvement on this project and will do our best to serve in whatever capacity needed to see this important mission implemented in a cost effective and successful manner.

Sincerely,

Wayne D. Pruitt

Wayne Pruitt, President
Kansas APCO Chapter

KANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS



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620-364-2305

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P.O. Box 56
St. Marys, Kansas 66536
785-437-6287

November 24, 2003

Chief Robert S. Sage
Rose Hill Police Department
P.O. Box 185
Rose Hill, Kansas 67133

Dear Bob;

The Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs (KSAFC) stands in support of better communications between all emergency providers. KSAFC understands the need for all emergency services to be able to communicate with each other. It is very frustrating in an emergency when you are not able to communicate with all emergency providers. This makes the already dangerous situation even more dangerous.

Emporia Fire Chief Jack Taylor is the KSAFC representative on the State Communication Committee. If he or I can be of any more support to this challenging project please let us know.

Sincerely;

John M. Lloyd, President
Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs

2004 CONFERENCE – SALINE COUNTY FIRE CHIEF ASSOCIATION – SALINA, KANSAS
2005 CONFERENCE – ELLIS COUNTY RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT – HAYS, KANSAS



K A N S A S

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DAVID LAKE, ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

October 24, 2003

Robert S. Sage, Chief of Police
Rose Hill Police Department
P.O. Box 185
Rose Hill, KS 67133

Dear Chief Sage:

Effective and efficient emergency response requires coordination, communication, and sharing of information among numerous public safety agencies. A number of incidents that require mutual aid and a coordinated response happen each day. A fundamental interoperability challenge today is wireless voice communication among agencies that have different radio systems operating on various radio frequencies.

The Board of Emergency Medical Services is very aware of the challenges to make public safety communications more effective, efficient, and cost effective. We therefore, offer our support in the creation of a statewide system which will solve the communications interoperability issue and allow for voice, data, and G.I.S. information to flow between all emergency services agencies throughout the State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D Allin".

Dennis M. Allin, MD
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Ottawa, KS 66067

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St. John, KS 67576

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Girard, KS 66743
LYNN FIELDS
Girard Police Dept.
Girard, KS 66743
KETH RATHER
KDWP
Chanute, KS 66720

Kansas Peace Officers' Association

INCORPORATED
TELEPHONE 316-722-8433
FAX 316-722-1988
P.O. BOX 2592 • WICHITA, KANSAS 67201



Col. William R. Seck, Chairman
Governor's Homeland Security Task Force

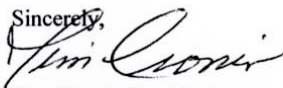
Re: Communications Inter-operability

Dear Col. Seck,

It has been brought to the attention of this organization that the State sits in a unique position to dramatically improve communications inter-operability statewide.

As you are aware, it is vital to the safety of our citizens and emergency services personnel to be able to communicate and share information seamlessly in a unified system where each of us has equal accessibility.

We, therefore off our support to you in the creation of a statewide system which will solve the communications inter-operability issue and allow for voice, data, & G.I.S. information to flow between all emergency services agencies throughout the state. We also pledge to assist you in any manner which would bring this about in the shortest amount of time because we feel that time is of the essence.

Sincerely,

Tim Cronin, President
Kansas Peace Officers Association

In Unity There Is Strength

Kansas Sheriffs Association



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To whom it may concern:

At a recent meeting of the membership of the Kansas Sheriff's Association, it was brought to our attention that the State of Kansas is in a position to dramatically improve their inter-operative communications.

We are all aware that seamless communications is vital to the safety and service to the citizens we serve.

A vote of the members present at that meeting pledged the support of the Kansas Sheriff's Association to improve the voice, data and G.I.S. information flow between emergency services agencies.

Sincerely;

Darrell Wilson

Executive Director

COPY



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LYNN MENAGH
Region V
Norton Police Dept.

VERNON RALSTON
Region VI
St. John Police Dept.

November 25, 2003

William R. Seck
Chairman, Governor's Homeland Security Task Force
Superintendent, Kansas Highway Patrol
122 SW 7th Street
Topeka, KS 66603-3847

Re: Communications Inter-operability

Dear Superintendent Seck:

It has come to the attention of this organization that the State sits in a unique position to dramatically improve emergency services communications inter-operability statewide. As you are aware, it is vital to the safety of our citizens and emergency services personnel to be able to communicate and share information seamlessly in a unified system where each of us has equal accessibility.

We, therefore, offer our support to you in the creation of a statewide system that will solve the communications inter-operability issue and allow for voice, data and G.I.S. information to flow between all emergency service agencies throughout the state. We also pledge to assist you in any manner which would bring this about in the shortest amount of time because we feel that time is of the essence. We are available and anxious to discuss this matter at your convenience.

We will appreciate your prompt and directed attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Sissom", is written over the typed name.

Chief Kenneth Sissom
KACP President