



# Ohio 9-1-1 Newsletter

**October 2015**

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## **PSAP Operations Rules Proposal going to JCARR for approval**

The Ohio Emergency Services Internet-Protocol Network (ESINet) Steering Committee voted to submit the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Operations Rules Proposal to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) for approval on Aug. 6, 2015. This most recent version of the Rules Proposal reflects final edits made at a special work session of the ESINet Steering Committee held July 22, following the July 9 public comment process conducted by the steering committee. During the special work session, the steering committee took into account the concerns expressed by various stakeholders and modified language contained within the rules as appropriate.

Once the rules have been submitted to JCARR, there will be another required public comment process which will precede JCARR's ruling on the proposal. Should JCARR approve the PSAP Operations Rules Proposal, the rules would then go into effect, starting the two year period that PSAPs have to ensure compliance with the rules before enforcement of the rules takes place. You can view the final rules proposal at <http://911.ohio.gov>

## **September is Emergency Preparedness Month**

National Emergency Preparedness month was held during September. Throughout the month, various agencies engaged in activities designed to promote awareness associated with issues of emergency preparedness and knowing what to do should an emergency situation arise. In the event of an emergency, 9-1-1 is often the first resource people turn to for help. While significant advancements in technology have been made, contrary to common belief, 9-1-1 telecommunicators are not always able to immediately pinpoint the location of a person calling

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9-1-1 during an emergency. As such, it is always best to know your location when you call 9-1-1. Being able to provide 9-1-1 telecommunicators with your location, as well as a detailed description of the emergency situation, will help telecommunicator get the necessary help to the scene as quickly as possible.

To promote this idea of knowing one's location when calling 9-1-1, the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office, in conjunction with the Ohio Association of Broadcasters, the Ohio Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, and the Ohio Department of Public Safety produced television and radio public service announcements (PSAs), which aired throughout the month of September. The video PSA, which featured six first responders from throughout Ohio, was shown on television stations across the state, and also is available to be viewed at [911.ohio.gov](http://911.ohio.gov).

### **ORC 128.571 and PSAP Consolidation**

As many of you are aware, the Ohio Revised Code section 128.571 specifies that as of Jan. 1, 2016, each county is only allowed to use Wireless 9-1-1 disbursements to fund a maximum of four PSAPs initially answering wireless calls, with the exception of counties containing a municipality with a population of 175,000 or more, in which case five PSAPs are permitted. Also, counties may not have more wireless PSAPs than the criteria allows. Counties found out of compliance with this section on Jan. 1, 2016 will have disbursements reduced by 50 percent until they reach a state of compliance.

With this transition in mind, each county 9-1-1 coordinator has received a form from the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office on which they will need to list all of the wireless PSAPs in their county. This form is due back to the 9-1-1 Program Office by Nov. 6, 2015. Please be aware of these considerations as the end of 2015 draws near to help ensure counties will not lose funding.

### **Aug. 6 and Sept. 3 ESINet Steering Committee Meeting Recap**

The ESINet Steering Committee held two productive meetings during the months of August and September, each by teleconference. Highlights include:

- On Aug. 6, the committee voted to send the PSAP Operations Rules to JCARR for

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approval [see above].

- Recap of the United States Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Communications (DHS-OEC) Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP). For more information or to request a DVD recording of this event, contact the 9-1-1 Program Office at [Ohio9-1-1@das.ohio.gov](mailto:Ohio9-1-1@das.ohio.gov).
- Discussion of the currently available interim solution for Text-to-9-1-1.
- On Sept. 3, the steering committee voted to approve the newly updated rosters for the Technical Standards Subcommittee and the PSAP Operations Subcommittee.

### **Ohio Alerts Conference, August 27, 2015**

The Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee held the 2015 Ohio Alerts Conference at the Columbus Police Training Academy on Aug. 27. The conference was well attended by members of law enforcement and other relevant agencies from throughout Ohio and included a variety of updates and informational sessions relating to AMBER Alerts, child abductions, the police response to such events, and other alerts issued by law enforcement.

- Brent Currence of the Ohio Attorney General's Office gave an update on the current state of the various alert systems in Ohio, including the AMBER Alert, Endangered Missing Child Alert, Endangered Missing Adult Alert, and Ohio Blue Alert.
- Personnel from the Ottawa Police Department, the Putnam County Sheriff's Department, and the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation participated in a panel discussion centered on a case study of an incident of child abduction in which an AMBER Alert was issued.
- Special Agent Larry McCoy of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation gave an update on the Child Abduction Recovery Team (CART) in Ohio and some aspects that make Ohio's CART different from those set up in other states.
- Supervisory Special Agent John Brunell of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Behavior Analysis Unit-3 gave a presentation on missing child case studies and suspect profiling.

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Overall, the 2015 Ohio Alerts Conference was very productive and informative. The information provided served to further underscore just how important the 9-1-1 system and the work you do each and every day is, especially within the specific context of producing a swift response and positive outcome when it comes to cases of child abduction and missing persons.

### **Recent Events**

- Aug. 16 to 19: APCO International Conference and Expo, Washington D.C.
- Sept. 9: Ohio NENA and Ohio APCO Meeting, Columbus, Ohio
- Sept. 14: CMI User Group, Deer Creek
- Sept. 15: National 9-1-1 Webinar

### **Upcoming Events**

- Oct. 14: Ohio LEADS Steering Committee meeting, 10 AM, 1980 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio
- Oct. 15: ESINet Steering Committee Meeting, 11 AM, Riffe Center, Columbus, Ohio
- Oct. 20: Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee meeting, 10 AM, 1980 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio
- Nov. 3 to 5: National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators meeting, San Antonio, Texas

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