

New York State  
Interoperable and Emergency  
Communication Board  
2013 Annual Report

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This report has been prepared pursuant to Section 328 of the New York State County Law, which requires the New York State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board to issue an annual report to the Governor and the temporary president of the Senate, the minority leader of the Senate, the speaker of the Assembly, and the minority leader of the Assembly on the Board's prior year activities.

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## **I. The State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board**

The State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board is empowered under Section 326 of the New York County Law with the following select powers and duties:

1. Make recommendations to the Commissioner of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services on the expenditure of grants and other funding programs related to interoperable and emergency communications;
2. Make recommendations related to the development, coordination and implementation of policies, plans, standards, programs and services related to interoperable and emergency communications, including but not limited to ensuring compliance with federal mandates for interoperable communications and compatibility with the national incident management system;
3. Establish structures and guidelines to maintain interoperable communications planning and coordination at the statewide level;
4. Establish, promulgate and revise standards for the operation of public safety answering points; and
5. Establish guidelines regarding the creation of regionally based radio communications systems compatible with the structures and guidelines consistent with federal mandates and best practices.

The 25 member Board is comprised of state agency heads, state legislative and executive appointees representative of first responder organizations and experts in the field of interoperable and emergency communications. Members are appointed for a term of four years.

**A. Membership**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>AFFILIATION</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT</b>
<b><i>CHAIR</i></b>		
Robert M. Barbato	Director, Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications	Exec. Law §717
<b><i>MEMBERSHIP</i></b>		
William Bleyle	9-1-1 Commissioner, Onondaga County	Executive
Joseph D'Amico	Superintendent, NYS Police	Ex-Officio
Eric Day	Emergency Manager, Clinton County	Executive
Brian Digman	CIO, NYS Office of Information Technology Services	Ex-Officio
Joel Eisdorfer	Private/technical expert	Senate
Joseph Gerace	Sheriff, Chautauqua County	Executive
Michael C. Green	Commissioner, Division of Criminal Justice Services	Ex-Officio
Jerome M. Hauer	Commissioner, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services	Ex-Officio
Brian LaFlure	Emergency Manager, Warren County	Executive
Gary Maha	Sheriff, Genesee County	Senate
Joan McDonald	Commissioner, Department of Transportation	Ex-Officio
John Merklinger	Director, Monroe County Emergency Communications	Executive
Maj. Gen. Patrick A. Murphy	Adjutant General, Division of Military and Naval Affairs	Ex-Officio
Kevin Revere	Emergency Manager, Oneida County	Senate
Richard Rotanz	Private/technical expert, Suffolk County	Senate
Nariv R. Shah, MD	Commissioner, Department of Health	Ex-Officio

Michael K. Volk	EMS & Communications Chief, Westchester County Department of Emergency Services	Executive
James R. Voutour	Sheriff, Niagara County	Executive

**B. Board Vacancies**

As of March 1, 2014, six seats on the Board are vacant. The vacancies comprise one appointment from the State Senate; and five State Assembly appointments.

**C. 2013 Meetings**

As required by statute, the SIEC Board met four (4) times during the calendar year 2013. These meetings were held on: February 20th, May 22nd, September 18th and November 11th. The meeting agendas can be found on DHSES website <http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/media/webcast.cfm>.

**D. Committees and Working Groups of the Board**

- The Communications and Interoperability Working Group are subject matter experts charged with addressing the tactical, operational, and strategic interoperability needs of public safety first responders by providing best practices for interoperability, within & between regions; identifying measurable outcomes/performance; planning for long-range sustainability; voicing the needs, requirements, and expectations of the public safety and emergency management communities; and clarifying the technical needs, standards, impact of mandates, and evolving technologies for public safety first responders in New York State.
- The 9-1-1 Standards Advisory Committee is charged with assisting local governments, service suppliers, wireless telephone service suppliers and appropriate state agencies by facilitating the most efficient and effective routing of wireless 911 emergency calls; developing minimum standards for public safety answering points; promoting the exchange of information, including emerging technologies; and encouraging the use of best practice standards among the public safety answering point community.
- The Channel Naming and Use Working Group is charged with identifying the various State and National Interoperable radio channels; establishing and/or clarifying the proper names and identification of these channels; and establishing the base line operational policies and procedures for the use of these channels, to support the interoperable communications needs of public safety responders in New York State.

- The Public Safety Network Interoperability Working Group is charged with developing a common internet protocol (IP) structure for the eventual connection of multiple Consortiums and Agencies in a Statewide secure “Intranet” for interoperability and PSAP redundancy, in order to give participants a recommended framework to build from, with the least possible conflict with existing systems.
- The Public Safety Broadband Working Group is charged with advising the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board and the New York public safety community on matters such as FirstNet consultation; evolving standards development; public safety broadband grant status, including the State and Local Implementation Grant Program; the needs, requirements, and expectations of the public safety and emergency management communities for broadband; the deployment status of public safety broadband across the State; and promoting public safety broadband in the New York State public safety responder and secondary user communities.

## **II. The Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant Program**

As authorized by Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2010, the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), through its Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications (OIEC), is designated as the principal State agency for interoperable and emergency communications issues. OIEC is responsible to implement a grant program to facilitate the development, consolidation and operation of public safety communications systems which support statewide interoperability for first responders.

For public safety purposes, the United States Department of Homeland Security guidelines define *interoperability* as the ability of emergency responders to work seamlessly with other systems or products without any special effort. Radio communications interoperability specifically refers to the ability of emergency response officials to share information via voice and data on demand, in real time, when needed as authorized. Communications (for routine operations and incident-driven interoperability) is assessed from a capability perspective; and would apply equally to all hazards.

The Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) is a competitive grant and is funded by cellular surcharge revenue, pursuant to Section 186-f of New York State Tax Law. The first year appropriation was \$20 million, which increased the amount to \$45 million the following year, and then to \$75 million for the next 3 years..

The SICG supports the growth of regional communications partnerships throughout the State. The partnerships, which are inclusive of local and state public safety agencies, will create interoperable emergency communications systems for first responders.

To date, 13 regional partnerships or consortiums have been formed inclusive all 57 counties and the City of New York. Governance protocols, standard operating procedures and training and exercises are being implemented through these entities.

During 2013, DHSES awarded \$102 million—the largest annual amount in the history of the program and through which there was widespread participation from counties. Since 2010, a total of \$206 million has been awarded to 54 counties through this program. The funding will be used to expand radio coverage by installing new equipment at towers and antenna sites; set up common interoperability channels and other local mutual-aid channels among public safety radio systems, consolidate emergency services dispatch centers, and deploy new technology so that counties can link systems together.

**A. Round 1 of the Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant**

RFA Released: March 18, 2011  
Applications Due: May 17, 2011  
Notice of Awards: December 20, 2011

The first round sought applications for the following three categories. Counties could submit an application in any or all of the categories listed below. Awards were limited to \$2 million per award, per category.

Category 1 - Improve interoperable communications by ensuring capability for National Interoperability Channels, meeting narrowbanding requirements, and developing and implementing solutions to achieve spectrum efficiency.

Category 2 - Improve interoperable communications through operational efficiency and effectiveness by consolidating public safety answering points (PSAPs) and promoting cross-jurisdictional standard operating procedures (SOPs).

Category 3 - Improve interoperable communications through expanding, consolidating or developing large-scale, regionally-focused Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems for public safety use among two or more counties supporting multi-jurisdictional and multi-discipline, including State agencies.

Forty-five counties submitted fifty-eight applications requesting over \$69.5 million in funding for the first Round of the Grant, a 77.5% response rate. Seventeen awards were given to sixteen counties (Cortland County was successful in two categories). Thirteen counties did not apply for Round 1 funding. Awarded counties represented over 30% of the land in New York State and 15% of the population. While not a factor in the decision making process, one-third of all counties with declared disasters as a result of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee received grant awards.

## **B. Round 2 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant**

The second round of the SICG program — combining the re-appropriated \$45 million from 2011-12 and a portion of \$75 million from 2012-13 -- was aimed at continuing the momentum of the first round, which established the State's regional approach to interoperability and improved collaboration with state agencies. Expanding regional partnerships, formalizing governance, implementing operating procedures between counties and agencies, and improving efficiency of emergency communications systems were the main objectives.

The application announcement, question period, and evaluation process were consistent with those done in Round 1 of this Grant and complied with all State regulations.

Budget/statutory amendments required that a specific amount within the Program be dedicated for Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) purposes. Therefore implementation of the SICG Round 2 consisted of two parts:

- I. Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) \$36 million and \$66 million dedicated for further development of statewide interoperable communications for public safety with two required components.

RFA Released: May 16, 2012  
Applications Due: July 16, 2012  
Notice of Awards: February 4, 2013

Component A: For equipment, infrastructure, and technology to improve interoperable communications by developing, expanding or consolidating large-scale, regionally-focused LMR systems for public safety use among two or more counties supporting multi-jurisdictions and multi-disciplines, including State agencies.

Component B: Improving governance, standard operating procedures (SOPs), training and exercises and usage to promote efficient interregional communications, interoperability, cooperation and overall first responder readiness.

- II. Public Safety Answering Point Grant (PSAP Grant) \$9 million (a second \$9 million is scheduled for 2014) dedicated for proposals relating to operations and improvements, including next-generation technologies. Per amendments to statute -- \$7 million for consolidation & improvements; and 2 million for operational expenses. A list of Grant Summaries can be found in Appendix A of this report.

RFA Released:           October 5, 2012  
Applications Due:       January 31, 2013  
Notice of Awards:       May 1, 2013

For the SICG, forty-nine counties responded (85% response rate), with the total amount of funding requested at over \$158 million. As expected, counties demonstrated significant needs for improving public safety communications and interoperability among multiple agencies and jurisdictions; and affirmed their commitment to the regional communication partnership approach. Forty-eight applications were evaluated and ranked by their total score. One application was disqualified for incompleteness. Using the total appropriation authority of \$102 million which was available at that time, twenty-nine (29) counties received awards by using the \$102 million allocated.

Combining allocations from two years to allow a larger award distribution expedited the schedule for the SICG Program, and avoided a redundant, time consuming, second RFA issuance in the fall of 2012. Further, this approach facilitated project execution for counties by coinciding with county budget cycles and allowed them to engage sooner with contractors/suppliers before year-end.

For the PSAP Grant, 37 counties responded (64% response rate), with 24 applying for the consolidation and 13 applying for sustainment purposes. 11 counties were awarded under the \$7 million allocated for consolidation purposes; and 13 counties were funded through the \$2 million allocated for sustainment.

### **C. Round 3 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant**

The third round of the SICG program used \$75 million appropriated in 2013-14 to continue the objectives from the previous round to expand regional partnerships, formalize governance, implement operating procedures between counties and agencies, and improve efficiency of emergency communications systems.

In addition, Round 3 focused upon minimizing potential gaps in aligning technology acquisitions with operational use within regional consortiums. Recognizing this, eligibility was limited to counties which had not received SICG funding from the previous two rounds. Under these parameters, twenty-three (23) counties were eligible.

The application announcement protocol, question period, and evaluation process were consistent with those done in Round 1 and 2 of this Grant and complied with all State regulations.

RFA Released: August 2, 2013  
Applications Due: September 30, 2013  
Notice of Awards: December 3, 2013

Round 3 of the SICG solicited proposals for projects that include two components reflective of SAFECOM/NECP guidelines leading towards improved interoperability.

Component A: For equipment, infrastructure, and technology to improve interoperable communications by developing, expanding or consolidating large-scale, regionally-focused LMR systems for public safety use among two or more counties supporting multi-jurisdictions and multi-disciplines, including State agencies.

Component B: Improving governance, standard operating procedures (SOPs), training and exercises and usage to promote efficient interregional communications, interoperability, cooperation and overall first responder readiness.

Twenty-two (22) of the eligible counties responded to the SICG (96% response rate), with the total amount of funding requested at nearly over \$107 million. As expected, counties demonstrated significant needs for improving public safety communications and interoperability among multiple agencies and jurisdictions; and affirmed their commitment to the regional communication partnership approach.

All applications were evaluated and ranked by their total score. Among these, major progress can be realized through the distribution of awards using all current allocations appropriated for this purpose.

Benefits of this approach included expediting the capability within and between regions, and meeting resources needs among previously unfunded counties who are essential to fulfill the expectations of partnering jurisdictions and agencies within their consortium.

### **III. County Consortiums/Partnerships**

A primary objective of the SICG program is to encourage the development of regional-based communications consortiums and partnerships. These serve as the framework by which statewide interoperability can be accomplished through a “network of networks” for local, State and other first-responder agencies to use.

Prior to the SICG program, consortium affiliations were rather diverse, and broadly-defined with purposes not exclusively for communications or interoperability (e.g.; UASIs), and many were not fully inclusive of agencies/stakeholders that crossed over jurisdictional boundaries. Example: Buffalo/Erie/Niagara UASI

After the first three rounds, these partnerships have become more refined affiliations focusing on communications and interoperability goals; and by definition more inclusive of other agencies and jurisdictions.

Addressing the need to work together with State Agencies, the New York State Police (NYSP) was identified as an active or potential participant in among all applicants. The needs and interests of NYSP and other State agencies was widely acknowledged and incorporated in proposals.

This expansion and solidifying of consortiums/partnerships serves as the basis for sharing bandwidth, infrastructure and technology, but more importantly provides the operational, administrative and governance vehicle to make it workable. A list of county consortium memberships can be found in Appendix C of this report.

### **IV. Other Board Actions**

The Board adopted Resolution No 2013-1112-02 and Resolution No 2013-1112-03 pertaining to Channel Naming and Usage. Through these resolutions, the Board recommended common naming conventions for Statewide and other common mutual-aid channels to the Commissioner of DHSES. The Commissioner will consider the recommendations and take

appropriate action within his authority to establish guidelines for public safety agencies using such channels within the State of New York.

Specifically, the resolutions pertain to VHF High-Band frequencies; 155.3700 MHz (Law Enforcement) and nine frequencies utilized by Emergency Medical Services. The intent is to eliminate confusion of multiple names per channel and align the State with generally accepted naming conventions.

## **V. Summary:**

During the first decade of the twenty-first century, government's ability to fulfill this mission has been tested by many large-scale emergencies and disasters coming with increasing frequency and affecting widespread areas. Yet, the public safety mission is just as real every day for localized emergencies, whether they occur within or beyond the boundaries of a single jurisdiction. Regardless of scale, the crucial element in dealing with a crisis is the ability of responders to effectively communicate with each other.

Homeland Security Strategy on the national level has placed significant emphasis on interoperable public safety communications, and each state has been required to develop plans and demonstrate their capability to achieve interoperable communications on a statewide basis. In New York, the responsibility for ensuring that there is adequate interoperable communications to protect first responders and the public they serve has been shared by authorities between the state and local level. Coordination and collaboration among levels of government, disparate systems and multiple disciplines has been a significant challenge over the past decade; however, effective communications are a top priority for everyone. The State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board serves in this capacity for the State of New York.

## **APPENDIX A – Grant Summaries**

**A. SICG Round 1 Summary**

*As of March 1, 2014*

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Cortland</b>	\$2,000,000	Equipment for new UHF system for Central New York radio consortium.	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Cortland</b>	\$2,000,000	Radio equipment for new countywide system to be connected to Central New York radio consortium.	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Delaware</b>	\$1,078,000	Installing new radio and microwave infrastructure, National Interoperability base stations.	\$295,032.00	\$782,968.00
<b>Essex</b>	\$2,000,000	Implementing a gateway and infrastructure solution to permit the counties in the consortium to link their radio systems together; and narrowband compliant mobile radios to integrate in their new radio system.	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Genesee</b>	\$228,309	Replacing non-compliant interoperability channel base stations, and new simulcast equipment permitting first responder interoperability.	\$228,309.00	\$0.00
<b>Greene</b>	\$893,000	Installing new radio and microwave infrastructure, National Interoperability base stations.	\$80,952.29	\$812,047.71
<b>Madison</b>	\$1,997,812	Equipment for new UHF system for Central New York radio consortium.	\$1,997,812.00	\$0.00
<b>Nassau</b>	\$877,729	Radios for local PDs/other responders to use county radio system, and other multiband radios for supervisors to communicate with Suffolk County.	\$771,115.98	\$106,613.02
<b>Niagara</b>	\$2,000,000	Is in the process of building a new UHF digital radio system. They will utilize their award to purchase subscriber radios, upgrade a tower site and refresh their PSAP.	\$82,234.64	\$1,917,765.36

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Onondaga</b>	\$331,446	Replacing non-compliant EMS (“MED Channel”) equipment used to contact hospitals for medical reports & direction while en route to hospitals.	\$330,110.09	\$1,335.91
<b>Otsego</b>	\$1,128,000	Installing new radio and microwave infrastructure, National Interoperability base stations.	\$74,603.83	\$1,053,396.17
<b>Schoharie</b>	\$858,000	Installing new radio and microwave infrastructure, National Interoperability base stations.	\$24,841.71	\$833,158.29
<b>Steuben</b>	\$1,523,264	Converting existing system to digital to meet the narrowband deadline. And installing National Interoperability base stations. The system upgrades will be keeping pace with neighboring counties and their systems.	\$1,015,208.72	\$508,055.28
<b>Sullivan</b>	\$1,198,000	Installing new radio and microwave infrastructure, National Interoperability base stations.	\$32,212.77	\$1,165,787.23
<b>Ulster</b>	\$978,000	Installing new radio and microwave infrastructure, National Interoperability base stations.	\$0.00	\$978,000.00
<b>Warren</b>	\$736,938	Implementing a gateway and microwave solution permitting counties to link their systems.	\$735,674.45	\$1,263.55
<b>Washington</b>	\$171,500	Implementing a gateway and microwave solution permitting counties to link their systems.	\$152,517.40	\$18,982.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,999,998.00</b>		<b>\$11,820,624.88</b>	<b>\$8,179,373.12</b>

## B. SICG Round 2 Summary

*As of March 1, 2014*

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
Albany	\$6,000,000.00	Consolidation and upgrades to existing communication system. Deployment of system and technology to link surrounding regions and improve multi-jurisdictional response. .	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00
Chautauqua	\$6,000,000.00	Upgrades to existing VHF and UHF LMR system and radio equipment. Development of SOPs.	\$153,932.19	\$5,846,067.81
Chemung	\$6,000,000.00	Infrastructure and equipment upgrades of existing LMR system. Development of SOPs and training and exercise program.	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00
Clinton	\$2,152,080.00	Build-out of a seamless wireless interoperable network for local & state public safety communication. New high speed, high capacity microwave network backbone components & LMR gateway equipment to support interoperability with surrounding counties.	\$0.00	\$2,152,080.00
Cortland	\$6,000,000.00	Infrastructure and equipment for P25 LMR system with full support of multiband interoperability channels. Improvements in coordination and operations with state agencies.	\$2,501,736.54	\$3,498,263.46
Delaware	\$3,404,000.00	Infrastructure and backbone developments, connectivity with adjacent counties. Development of interoperable infrastructure throughout the consortium.	\$0.00	\$3,404,000.00
Erie	\$830,405.00	Installation of gateway devices. Infrastructure equipment for development of multi-band Interoperable Communication Channels.	\$0.00	\$830,405.00

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Essex	\$2,251,758.76	Additional infrastructure development. Expansion of P25 radio system to meet the needs of the consortium, state agencies and public safety agencies. Equipment upgrades and site development. Microwave upgrades to allow all necessary agencies the resources they need to become interoperable.	\$0.00	\$2,251,759.00
Genesee	\$5,435,095.00	Upgrade of existing 800 MHz system from a proprietary analog system to a fully digital, P25 system, with P25 Inter Radio Frequency Sub-System Interface (ISSI) interoperability and AES encryption for select users. New tower that will provide additional coverage in Genesee County and also serve as the gateway location for consortium partners to tie into Genesee County as a phased approach to allow roaming within the consortium.	\$3,102,579.53	\$2,332,515.47
Madison	\$4,194,189.00	Develop additional capacity and improvements for existing radio system. Expansion of interoperability amongst local, regional, and tribal mutual aid. Formalize governance and implement standard operating procedures within and between counties and other agencies.	\$0.00	\$4,194,189.00
Monroe	\$5,468,173.00	Enhancements to radio coverage and interoperability with surrounding counties and on the international border. Improvements in SOPs. Training and exercise programs.	\$0.00	\$5,468,173.00
New York City	\$3,543,309.00	Infrastructure and backbone developments and improvements. Buildout of VHF National Interoperability Channels in addition to existing capabilities. Development of SOPs for wide area of interoperability.	\$0.00	\$3,543,309.00

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Niagara	\$742,164.00	Implementation of additional end user equipment and technology to enhance the County's infrastructure. Additional radio equipment to enhance communications capabilities in larger structure incidents.	\$0.00	\$742,164.00
Onondaga	\$4,959,000.00	Infrastructure upgrades. Conversion to standard encryption protocols. Enhancements in training and the creation of a Field Operations Guide (FOG)	\$0.00	\$4,959,000.00
Ontario	\$2,202,885.00	Additional base stations to implement 700 MHz interoperability channels. Deployment of VHF base stations, providing the county with access to the primary dispatch frequencies of surrounding counties.	\$0.00	\$2,202,885.00
Orange	\$5,998,000.00	Microwave infrastructure solution to inter-connect to Hudson Valley Interoperability Communications Consortium (HVICC). Extension 700/800 MHz P-25 radio communications solution. Utilization of National, State & local public safety channels. Creation of Governance and Standard Operating Procedures & Protocols within the HVICC, including training, exercises and regional emergency responses which require inter-county public safety communications.	\$0.00	\$5,998,000.00
Orleans	\$2,000,000.00	Infrastructure and backhaul development. Improvements in governance, SOPs, and training programs to promote interregional communications.	\$1,681,328.04	\$318,671.96
Rensselaer	\$5,066,512.08	Implementation of National Interoperability capabilities in the county's infrastructure. Develop governance, SOP's and training standards.	\$0.00	\$5,066,512.00

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<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Rockland	\$5,500,000.00	Infrastructure development, microwave connectivity and radio equipment to implement National Interoperability Channels.	\$0.00	\$5,500,000.00
Schoharie	\$433,500.00	Microwave connectivity and network equipment. Development of governance and interoperability channels.	\$0.00	\$433,500.00
Schuyler	\$4,271,900.00	Infrastructure development, implementation of VHF and UHF National Interoperability channels, development of radio system that supports all public safety providers, from local and state agencies.	\$735,551.00	\$3,536,349.00
Steuben	\$3,169,693.00	Enhancements to the interoperable communications infrastructure. Development of a long-term interoperable radio plan for fire and EMS services and recommend operating procedures.	\$0.00	\$3,169,693.00
Suffolk	\$6,000,000.00	Infrastructure developments, gateways and other radio equipment to link with neighboring county and other state entities. Development of SOPs.	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00
Sullivan	\$841,833.00	Infrastructure and backbone developments, connectivity with adjacent counties. Development of interoperable infrastructure throughout the consortium.	\$0.00	\$841,833.00
Tioga	\$2,342,000.00	Infrastructure development, microwave connectivity. Development of SOPs and implementation of training and exercise programs.	\$0.00	\$2,342,000.00

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Tompkins	\$2,854,312.00	Expansion of Radio Communications System to establish interoperability with adjoining counties/regions. Installation of base stations for National Mutual Aid Channels for UHF, VHF and 800MHz; build-out of tactical repeaters through the current and expanded microwave system; and deployment of UHF U-Call and tactical channels to facilitate communications with adjoining counties. Formalization of governance relationships on an inter-county multi-region basis and training.	\$0.00	\$2,854,312.00
Wayne	\$2,036,700.00	Improvements to the County's radio infrastructure. Development of the national interoperable channels. Development of governance, training and exercise documents.	\$0.00	\$2,036,700.00
Wyoming	\$1,771,236.00	Microwave connectivity and infrastructure equipment. Implantation of National Interoperability Channels.	\$0.00	\$1,771,236.00
Yates	\$531,255.16	Addition of VHF, UHF and 700/800MHz interoperability channels. Infrastructure improvements. Development of SOPs, training and exercise programs.	\$50,277.50	\$480,977.50
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$102,000,000.00</b>		<b>\$8,225,404.80</b>	<b>\$93,774,595.20</b>

**C. SICG Round 3 Summary**

*As of March 1, 2014*

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Allegany	\$5,951,039.00	The proposed project is to add 8 tower locations to the current 6 in use today. There are significant gaps in coverage that the additional towers will enhance and at the same time allow our county the ability to have a direct "microwave link" to all of our surrounding county radio systems. This will include the counties we border in the State of Pennsylvania, who also operate on a "microwave IP based system" providing interstate communications. The additional towers will allow for future growth of an IP microwave system that will lead us toward a fully P25 based system that has adequate coverage, capacity and reliability across the entire jurisdiction of the county during both normal and emergency operations.	\$0.00	\$5,951,039.00
Broome	\$6,000,000.00	The purpose of this project is to provide infrastructure and networking capabilities for interoperable communications for all agencies operating in and around Broome County. To support interoperable communications, including National Interoperability Channels, this project includes the build out of additional tower sites and microwave connectivity to four surrounding counties. This project will include upgrades to both the PSAP Call Taking Processing Equipment and Radio Console Equipment ensuring continuity of operations and interoperability in the region. Broome County, in conjunction with the Southern Tier Consortium, will implement and exercise National Interoperability SOPs and establish MOU's between the counties and local agencies.	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
Cattaraugus	\$6,000,000.00	Cattaraugus County has begun work on an ASTRO P25 VHF Trunking Communications System designed by Motorola. The system will inner connect all disciplines county wide as well as inner connect with our consortium partners in an effort to provide flexibility in tailoring the features and functionalities to satisfy the unique operational needs of fire, EMS, and police first responders (SCIP Goal 2.1.3.3). This proposal will modify existing SOP's to improve incident response (SCIP Goal 2.1.3.2) and establish a governance board of all stake holders to coordinate interoperable communications initiatives (SCIP Goal 2.1.3.1). The proposed System will provide the required 95% mobile coverage using a frequency-efficient digital IP simulcast design.	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00
Cayuga	\$5,251,690.00	The project includes infrastructure to meet National Interoperability with UTAC, VTAC, 8TAC equipment (SCIP 5.4.1); replace legacy consoles at the PSAP backup center (SCIP 5.3.1); enhance infrastructure protection with monitored surveillance equipment; upgrade to non-proprietary P-25 AES encryption (SCIP 5.3.1); close gap in PSAP recording capabilities to preserve communications platforms (SCIP 5.3); upgrade PSAP phone system to a NG-911 system and enhance/improve internal capabilities and consortium interoperability (SCIP 5.3.2); add redundancy and infrastructure to the radio system to enhance interoperability with NY State and mutual aid partners (SCIP 5.4.2 & 5.10); improve governance structure and formalize SOPs (SCIP 6.2 & 6.3).	\$0.00	\$5,251,690.00
Franklin	\$3,407,921.00	The overall goal of the project is the continued build out of the Franklin County Radio Interoperability Project. This project will give the fire, EMS, police and emergency personnel serving their community the ability to communicate during emergency situations.	\$0.00	\$3,407,921.00

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
Fulton	\$2,327,780.00	Fulton County seeks funds for a build-out of our current communications infrastructure. This multi-faceted project will further the goals of the New York State SCIP Plan and address SAFECOM guidance. Adding additional equipment to our infrastructure will extend the microwave backbone initiated by the Adirondack Regional Interoperable Communications Consortium (ARICC) that has grown to 11 counties that include Essex, Clinton, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren and Washington). Our project will provide enhanced seamless interoperable communications throughout all public safety disciplines (police, fire, EMS) within the consortium and provide a road map for future linking of adjoining consortiums.	\$0.00	\$2,327,780.00
Hamilton	\$2,530,385.00	The overall goal of this project is to replace Hamilton County's communication equipment to provide the capability for interoperability within the county emergency services, with the ten other counties within our consortium, and with state agencies including DHSES. The current equipment was donated to Hamilton County after the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid and is unable to support the requirements of our interoperability consortium. The goal is to update this equipment to meet SAFECOM requirements and provide interoperable communications as required by state and federal agencies. Section 1.3 of the narrative covers specific SCIP and SAFECOM standards to be addressed.	\$0.00	\$2,530,385.00
Herkimer	\$899,462.00	Herkimer County proposed project is to expand our current RF Coverage, Improve our current Microwave System and link the system into the Adirondack Consortium to the east and also into the Central NY Consortium to the west. The SICG would supply Herkimer County with a P25 VHF Trunking Backbone and would also greatly improve interoperability by installing National Interoperability Frequencies at our main communications sites. Herkimer County would also install an enhanced Communications Dispatch System at our County Dispatch Center.	\$0.00	\$899,462.00

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
Jefferson	\$6,000,000.00	Jefferson County's proposal provides for interoperable communications among public safety responders (Police, Fire, EMS, Highway) within Jefferson County as well as the contiguous member Counties of the Central New York Interoperable Communications Consortium. This proposal includes the construction of ten (10) tower sites (out of 15 potential sites) with microwave connectivity between the sites and three neighboring counties and includes infrastructure to provide for the installation of the national interoperability communications channels at three (3) of the ten sites and a County- provided open standards-based Project 25 (P25) regionally integrated, trunked land mobile radio network (TLMR).	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00
Lewis	\$6,000,000.00	Construct a new regional 11 site, UHF band, P25 compliant, digital simulcast multijurisdictional LMR system for public safety use providing 95% county-wide portable & mobile radio coverage including a VHF paging system, microwave system, dispatch consoles & subscriber equipment compatible with neighboring CNYICC consortium systems. Integrate with local, state, tribal & federal agency systems. Develop and formalize governance/SOPs consistent with SWIC, NECP, NIMS, SAFECOM, PPD-8, update TICP, use CASM, to promote efficient interregional communications interoperability and cooperation. Verify capabilities and identify gaps through NIMS & HSEEP compliant training & exercises. (SCIP pp. xi-xiii, 25-38, 69,82; SAFECOM pp. 7-12,13-14,16-17,22-41)	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
Livingston	\$5,994,854.00	The County will develop a regional interoperable voice and data IP communications system that provides seamless first responder communications in a seven county area pursuant to NYS SCIP Section 2.1.3.3(p25) and SAFECOM Priorities 4 and 5(p7-8). The project will support every user in the County and interface with the 6 contiguous counties. Any state, federal or local emergency personnel using VHF, UHF, 700 or 800 radios will be able to be patched into the County's system. The project includes development of SOPs and training and exercises that support implementation of the new upgraded system and promote efficient interregional coordination and first responder readiness.	\$0.00	\$5,994,854.00
Montgomery	\$1,685,554.00	Montgomery's SICG project enhances the capabilities of PSIC equipment to eleven contiguous counties (Montgomery, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, Essex, Hamilton, Warren, Washington, Fulton, Saratoga and Herkimer throughout all public safety responder disciplines (police, fire, EMS) by allowing dispatchers to monitor an incoming vehicle when being summoned without having to be engaged on a specific channel and eliminating the human component of selecting tower sites. The ability to share microwave systems and have connectivity by all of these counties will enhance the interoperability communications for all agencies therefore supporting the goal of this Adirondack Interoperable Communication Consortium and the Department of Homeland Security.	\$0.00	\$1,685,554.00
Oswego	\$6,000,000.00	To complete the build-out of Oswego's federally established interoperability channels, establish connectivity between consortium counties, harden existing connectivity and TLMR assets, remove proprietary encryption for law enforcement, strengthen governance, training and execution of interoperable tactics within the region and to explore options and alternatives to multiple PSAPS by developing a plan for future growth and sustainability	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
Saratoga	\$2,280,500.00	Saratoga County is the gateway to the NY Capital District area from the counties north to the Canadian border and as such the county can serve as a critical partner in the expansion of interoperability to the counties surrounding the Capital District. Saratoga County has invested heavily with its own capital funding to implement a new 800M Hz. Radio system with multiple capabilities including digital P.25 standards. Additionally the county has developed a 150MBs. digital microwave ring at 6 GHz. at multiple locations across the county. The county seeks to leverage those assets against potential grant dollars for access to the Adirondack Interoperability Consortium network by the implementation of new microwave paths to other members.	\$0.00	\$2,280,500.00
Seneca	\$6,000,000.00	Seneca's project will meet three goals: a) establish county-wide interoperable communications (IC); b) establish regional IC capability with the Finger Lakes Region New York Interoperable Communication Consortium and Cayuga County; and c) establish, develop, and formalize the governance framework and specific local agency SOPs for IC with one another and our regional and State agency partners. This project will build a three-tower county-wide conventional digital UHF simulcast radio system, including the purchase of new UHF mobile/portable radios for all Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement agencies in Seneca County. In addition, it will allow for future expansion of the radio system to add other jurisdictions, trunking, and enhanced coverage.	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
St. Lawrence	\$2,679,690.00	St. Lawrence County seeks funds for both planning and build-out of public safety communication infrastructure. This multi-faceted project will further the SCIP and address SAFECOM guidance. Build-out will extend the microwave backbone initiated by the Adirondack Regional Interoperable Communications Consortium (ARICC) and provide connectivity with the Central New York Interoperable Communications Consortium (CNYICC). The County will move to NG911 and make updates to bridge intra- and inter-operability gaps. The planning portion of this project will provide a roadmap for the future as the County considers options for communications technology delivery platforms and best practices for ensuring interoperability with both consortiums.	\$0.00	\$2,679,690.00
Westchester	\$5,991,125.00	Westchester County is committed to following the guidance of SAFECOM and the NYS SCIP by building out infrastructure to support communication via VCALL/VTAC and 7CALL/7TAC National interoperability channels (NYS SCIP P. 110 10/31/11) and by enhancing the reliability of intra- and inter-County communication through construction of a Countywide and inter-County microwave backbone (SAFECOM Guidance Page 32 FY2013) to support interoperable communication systems. The projects will leverage the County's existing communications infrastructure and regional consortium partnerships to build robust systems to support interoperable communication for law enforcement, fire, EMS and emergency management in and around the County.	\$0.00	\$5,991,125.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$75,000,000.00</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$75,000,000.00</b>

**D. 2012 PSAP Grant Summary**

*As of March 1, 2014*

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Allegany	\$155,954.00	This project will provide the County equipment for i3 based SIP technology enhancing telephony that will include text messaging and video conferencing. As a Voice over IP (VoIP) system the equipment that will be installed at the Primary and Backup Centers will allow for 'Hot Standby' redundancy. It will also allow for remote access using a Virtual Private network (VPN) from a mobile command point or in the event both the primary and backup centers must be evacuated. Aurora statistics software will ensure that all call counts and types are reported accurately and concisely.	\$0	\$155,954.00
Broome	\$988,662.00	Comprehensive upgrade of the Broome County Public Safety CAD system while simultaneously enabling a virtual consolidation of dispatch and records management between the Broome County PSAP and Binghamton University.	\$0	\$988,662.00
Cattaraugus	\$199,918.00	Upgrade of Licensed Standard Software along with the replacement of all required hardware to complete the upgrade. Replacement of servers that house CAD data and the upgrade of all product software. Large training program for dispatch staff on the use and new functionalities. Access of the MSP system to all local law enforcement agencies.	\$0	\$199,918.00
Chautauqua	\$93,515.00	The consolidation of the two centers into one, merging data sets, interconnecting radio, phone, alarm, and controls, updating operating procedures.	\$0	\$93,515.00
Chenango	\$74,051.00	Purchase 2D aerial imagery application/software to enhance the response capabilities of first responders.	\$0	\$74,051.00
Delaware	\$179,210.00	Hosted CAD solution to be shared among multiple counties within the Catskill Consortium. Infrastructure to support a common CAD and Mapping platform for the Catskill Consortium members.	\$0	\$179,210.00

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Dutchess	\$63,892.00	Evaluation, design and implementation of electrical service upgrade to meet increased demands of technology in PSAP.	\$0	\$63,892.00
Erie	\$967,981.00	The ongoing system design replaces separate and distinct local PSAPs with a single networked PSAP and backup center. This design consolidates server hosting and 911 trunk delivery and provides a robust interconnected network to deliver calls to remote workstations. Enhancements to the county wide CAD system to facilitate multi-jurisdictional / multi discipline dispatch.	\$0	\$967,981.00
Franklin	\$365,000.00	Consolidation of the secondary PSAP's in Franklin County with Primary PSAP.	\$0	\$365,000.00
Hamilton	\$144,472.00	Equipping the Primary PSAP in Hamilton County to be a joint back-up facility for any other county within the Adirondack Regional Interoperability Consortium.	\$0	\$144,472.00
Jefferson	\$295,524.00	Upgrade 9-1-1 Telephony system at both the primary and back-up PSAP's in order to be prepared for NG-911 and to allow for interoperability between 9-1-1 systems of neighboring County and Federal PSAPs based upon Internet Protocol (IP) technology.	\$0	\$295,524.00
Lewis	\$808,615.00	Lewis County will implement new Computer-Aided Dispatch and Next-Gen compliant telephone systems for its PSAP. The county will partner with Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties, each of which will use the same phone and CAD systems, to provide 911 backup and enhance interoperability.	\$0	\$808,615.00
Livingston	\$305,767.00	Upgrading the existing Radio Dispatch Consoles at both the Primary and Back Up PSAPs to a matched IP based system, establish a microwave IP link between the Primary PSAP, Back Up PSAP as well as establish microwave IP links to all radio transmitters and receivers.	\$0	\$305,767.00
Niagara	\$620,000.00	Upgrading PSAP dispatch software.	\$0	\$620,000.00

County	Award Amount	Brief Project Description	Reimbursed	Balance
Onondaga	\$187,591.00	Updating County's GIS centerline files and computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system. Procurement of the necessary network storage devices to store/process the images/layers both from the CAD system and independently.	\$0	\$187,591.00
Orleans	\$133,090.00	Replacement of 911 call-center system and equipment with next generation technology.	\$0	\$133,090.00
Oswego	\$836,009.00	Construct a proposed telephone network with the capacity to seamlessly communicate with a system in Cayuga County, acting as a redundant resource in call processing, routing of overflow call volume and facilitate the efficient use of any combination of resources to effectively answer an emergency call.	\$0	\$836,009.00
Otsego	\$866,051.00	Provide a hosted CAD solution to be shared among multiple counties within the Catskill Consortium. Provide an infrastructure to support a common CAD and Mapping platform for the Catskill Consortium members.	\$0	\$866,051.00
Rensselaer	\$17,823.00	Rensselaer County is working with the Capital Region UASI to partner in the development of an interoperable CAD/RMS System. This CAD/RMS System is hosted by the City of Albany and has shared infrastructure for Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady Counties. Rensselaer County will replace its obsolete CAD system with the installation of this new technology.	\$0	\$17,823.00
Suffolk	\$250,381.00	The project will consist of Suffolk County upgrading the existing Pictometry Oblique and Ortho Imagery so that our Public Safety Operations will have the most current aerial and oblique views of Suffolk County.	\$0	\$250,381.00
Sullivan	\$799,000.00	Consolidate existing primary and backup E911 telephone system technology which is nearing end of life.	\$0	\$799,000.00

<b>County</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Brief Project Description</b>	<b>Reimbursed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Tioga	\$28,711.00	Enhance PSAP's capability to record all emergency communications. This goal will be achieved by the upgrade of our current recording software to a new version.	\$0	\$28,711.00
Warren	\$425,000.00	Implementation of a joint back-up PSAP facility for use by both Warren and Washington Counties in the event of a failure of either primary PSAPs. This facility will not be located in the same location as either of the primary PSAPs.	\$0	\$425,000.00
Wayne	\$193,783.00	Equipment necessary to couple with the Wayne County Public Safety Radio Interoperability Project, to form a complete, updated radio system. Replacement of Radio Dispatch Electronics, while increasing capacity; Replacement of Dispatch Center Workstations; Replacement of 911 Center Logging Recorder with a NG-911 capable unit.	\$0	\$193,783.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$9,000,000.00</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$9,000,000.00</b>

## **APPENDIX B – Board Resolutions**

**STATE INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING  
COMMUNICATIONS GUIDELINE 115.370**

**Resolution No. 2013-1113-02**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 328(10) of the New York State County Law, the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board is empowered to make recommendations to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services related to the development, coordination and implementation of policies, plans, standards, programs and services related to interoperable and emergency communications; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board deems it appropriate to make a recommendation to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services regarding the standard name and use of a frequency in the State of New York.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board hereby adopts the recommendation of the Channel Naming Workgroup that the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services implement the Communications Guideline regarding the name and use of 155.370 MHz in New York State, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from November 13, 2013.

**ADOPTED and APPROVED** by the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board at a meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November, 2013 at which a quorum was present and voted.

**State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board**

BY: Robert M. Barbato  
**Robert M. Barbato, Chair**

STATE INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-1113-02  
EXHIBIT A

COMMUNICATIONS GUIDELINE

**Name and Use of 155.370 MHz in New York State**

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**SUMMARY:**

This document establishes a standard name and use for 155.370 MHz in New York State. This frequency will be known as NYLAW1 and remain a **law enforcement interagency channel**. This guideline is consistent with existing use and the overall standardization of interoperability channels in New York State.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Effective immediately, **155.370 MHz** shall be known as “NYLAW1” (Pronounced “Nye-Law-One”). It is understood that transition of naming will take time, however all users should begin use of the new name and should rename visual displays in radio equipment, immediately. Agencies should inform their users of this name change so they are familiar with the new name and how it relates to the current appearance in their radios.

Consistent with existing practice, use of this frequency **is restricted to recognized law enforcement agencies (Federal, State, Local and Tribal) for law enforcement related interagency purposes**. It is expected that FCC frequency coordinators will assist in maintaining this through the approval of only authorized licensee applications. Agencies that are not law enforcement who are requesting exceptions to this requirement should contact the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications. Requests will be reviewed and granted where justified and warranted.

(Email: [DHSESOIEC@dhses.ny.gov](mailto:DHSESOIEC@dhses.ny.gov) Phone: 518-322-4911)

**A Federal Communications Commission (FCC) license or appropriate authorization from a licensee is required for mobile, portable and base station use. A licensee may not authorize non-law enforcement users under their license without approval from the Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications.**

**PERMITTED USES:**

- Law Enforcement Inter-agency communications of a tactical or transient nature.

**PROHIBITED USES:**

- Dispatching a single agency;
- Substitution for an internal agency operational channel;
- Single agency tactical communications;
- Non-law enforcement communications;
- Routine NCIC or DMV type checks, unless related to a multijurisdictional incident.

**STATE INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-1113-02  
EXHIBIT A**

Concerns regarding misuse of NYLAW1 should be reported to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications for review. (Email: [DHSESOIEC@dhses.ny.gov](mailto:DHSESOIEC@dhses.ny.gov) Phone: 518-322-4911)

**TECHNICAL PARAMETERS:**

- All radios shall **transmit** the CTCSS tone of **110.9 Hz** on this frequency. Use of receiver tone is optional; however user agencies must be cautioned that not all users currently transmit this tone and therefore receive tone is not recommended at this time.
- Only analog narrowband transmissions are permitted.
- The use of a radio programed “time out timer” is mandatory, with transmissions not permitted to exceed 120 seconds (2 minutes) each.

**UNIT IDENTIFICATION:**

- Users shall identify their agency when initiating transmissions on NYLAW1 (e.g. “Empire County Sheriff Unit 241 to Anytown Police K-9 Unit”).
- Users shall utilize plain language when operating on NYLAW1.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Since established in the 1970s, the frequency 155.370 MHz has been reserved for law enforcement purposes. Through the years, it became known by many different names, leading to confusion in the end user community. As part of an overall review of interoperable channels, a working group of the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board recommended this standardized name. Additionally, specific usage and licensing guidelines were necessary to ensure its continued usefulness to law enforcement.

**STATE INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING  
COMMUNICATIONS GUIDELINE 115.370**

**Resolution No. 2013-1113-03**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 328(10) of the New York State County Law, the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board is empowered to make recommendations to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services related to the development, coordination and implementation of policies, plans, standards, programs and services related to interoperable and emergency communications; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board deems it appropriate to make a recommendation to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services regarding the standard name and use of EMS VHF radio channels in the State of New York.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board hereby adopts the recommendation of the Channel Naming Workgroup that the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services implement the Communications Guideline regarding the name and use of common EMS VHF radio channels in New York State, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from November 13, 2013.

**ADOPTED and APPROVED** by the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board at a meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November, 2013 at which a quorum was present and voted.

**State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board**

BY:



**Robert M. Barbato, Chair**

**STATE INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-1113-03  
EXHIBIT A**

**COMMUNICATIONS GUIDELINE**

**Name and Use of Common EMS VHF Radio Channels  
In New York State**

**SUMMARY:**

This document establishes a standard name and use for commonly identified and utilized VHF-High Band channels utilized by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in New York State.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The following frequencies have been renamed.

Frequency	New Name	Pronunciation	CTCSS	Use
155.1600	SAR-160	Sarr-One-Six-Zero	131.8 Hz. <sup>1</sup>	Tac
155.1750	NYMED175	Nye-Med-One-Seven-Five		Tac
155.2200	NYMED220	Nye-Med-Two-Two-Zero		Tac
155.2800	NYMED280	Nye-Med-Two-Eight-Zero		Tac and Hospital
155.2950	NYMED295	Nye-Med-Two-Nine-Five		Tac
155.4000	NYMED400	Nye-Med-Four-Hundred		Tac and Hospital
155.7150	NYMED715	Nye-Med-Seven-One-Five		Tac
155.3400	VMED28 <sup>2</sup>	Vee-Med-Two-Eight	156.7 Hz. Transmit <sup>3</sup>	Tac and Hospital
155.3475	VMED29 <sup>2</sup>	Vee-Med-Two-Nine	156.7 Hz. Transmit <sup>3</sup>	Tac

<sup>(1)</sup> Transmit CTCSS of 131.8 Hz. for SAR160 has been established by the NYS Federation of Search and Rescue Teams.

<sup>(2)</sup> This is a national standard name in the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG).

<sup>(3)</sup> Transmit tone of 156.7 Hz. as stated in the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG). Default operations should be carrier-squelch receive. It is not recommended to program a receiver tone.

**STATE INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-1113-03  
EXHIBIT A**

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

It is understood that transition of naming will take time, however all users should begin use of the new names and should rename visual displays in radio equipment, immediately. Agencies should inform their users of this name changes so they are familiar with the new names and how it relates to the current appearance in their radios.

**LICENSED USE:**

**This guideline does NOT supersede the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules and regulations. An FCC license or appropriate authorization from a licensee is required for mobile, portable and base station use.**

**CAUTION:** Some of these frequencies are not for exclusive EMS Communications use, as they are licensed by other entities for their own operational purposes. Transient users of the frequencies operating in other areas of the state (during mutual-aid conditions) should avoid causing interference with other licensed users.

**PERMITTED USES:**

EMS Operations (Tactical, Ambulance to Ambulance, Ambulance to Hospital Communications)

**PROHIBITED USES:**

Non-EMS, non-public safety related activities.

Concerns regarding misuse of these frequencies should be reported to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications for review. Email: [DHSESOIEC@dhses.ny.gov](mailto:DHSESOIEC@dhses.ny.gov) Phone: 518-322-4911

**TECHNICAL PARAMETERS:**

- Only analog narrowband transmissions are permitted.
- The use of a radio programed "time out timer" is mandatory, with transmissions not permitted to exceed 180 seconds (3 minutes) each.

**UNIT IDENTIFICATION:**

- Users shall identify their agency when initiating transmissions on these channels (e.g. "Acme EMS Unit 123 to Anytown Hospital").
- Users shall use plain language when operating on these frequencies. The use of "10-codes" or other codes is prohibited.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Since the statewide EMS communications plan was established in the 1970s, the list of available channels has changed and they have become known by many different names, leading to confusion in the end user community. As part of an overall review of interoperable channels, a working group of the State Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board recommended these standardized names.

## **APPENDIX C – Interoperable Communication Consortiums**

#	Consortium Name	Consortium Membership (County Name)
1	Adirondack Regional Interoperable Communications Consortium	Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren, Washington
2	Capital Region Urban Area Security Initiative	Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie
3	Catskill Interoperable Communications Consortium	Delaware, Greene, Otsego, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster
4	Central New York Interoperable Communications Consortium	Cayuga, Cortland, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, St. Lawrence
5	Finger Lakes New York Interoperable Communications Consortium (FLNYICC)	Allegany, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates
6	Hudson Valley Interoperable Communications Consortium	Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester
7	Northern New York Interoperable Communications Consortium or Thousand Island Regional Interoperable Communications Consortium	Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence
8	NYC- Urban Area Working Group (UAWG)	Nassau, New York City, Suffolk, Westchester
9	Six County Regional Interoperable Communications Coalition	Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Wayne
10	Southern Tier East Regional Emergency Service Interoperable Communications Alliance	Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Tioga, Tompkins
11	Southern Tier Interoperable Communications Consortium	Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben
12	Western New York Interoperable Communications Consortium	Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Wyoming
13	Consortium A	Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben