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Upcoming Events:

- Oklahoma Public Safety Broadband Network Summits

2015 Oklahoma Incident Resource Hotline Roadshow

The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM) has recently completed the 2015 Regional Workshop Roadshow for the Incident Resource Hotline.

OEM, in collaboration with the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security (OKOHS), took their annual Incident Responders Workshop “on the road” and traveled to five regions in the state: Woodward, Durant, Duncan, Tulsa, and Oklahoma City.

These workshops promoted the use of the Oklahoma Incident Resource Hotline, which is a one-stop-shop for emergency personnel to obtain resources beyond their mutual aid partners.

Spearheading the roadshow was Del City Fire Chief Jim Hock, who is the current Incident Resource Hotline Committee Chairman. Hock, along with representatives from multiple state agencies, developed the Incident Resource Hotline in 2010.

Since its creation, the Incident Resource Hotline has been able to provide much needed resources during multiple incidents (such as wildfires and tornadoes) as well as for planned events across the state of Oklahoma.



OKOHS Director, Kim Edd Carter, providing opening remarks at the IRH Central Region Workshop.

In addition to providing information about the Incident Resource Hotline, speakers from OKOHS provided information about Homeland Security and the Information Fusion Center, the Oklahoma Regional Response System, Training and Exercise Courses, the Oklahoma School Security Institute, and Interoperable Communications.

Other topics included Task Force One, information on the Regional Emergency Medical Support Services (REMSS) and Emergency Medical Services Strike Teams by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, Wild Land Task Forces and an update for firefighters by the Council on Firefighter Training (COFT), Law Enforcement Strike Teams and Incident Management/Support Teams, as well as a presentation on resources available from the Oklahoma National Guard and private partners.

April 2015 COMT Course



COMT Instructor, Jim Millsap, giving an introduction on the responsibilities of a COMT to the students in McAlester.

The Interoperable Communications Division of OKOHS hosted an All-Hazards Communications Unit Technician (COMT) Course on April 20-24 in McAlester, Oklahoma.

The COMT Instructors, John Johnson and Jim Millsap, were provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) as part of their Interoperability Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP). They provided instruction to nine students representing public safety agencies including firefighters, county emergency management, the Choctaw Marshal's Office, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Designed to provide introductory and refresher training for the COMT Position, this course introduces public safety professionals to a variety of communications concepts and technologies used during incident response and planned events. This course covers Land Mobile Radio (LMR) communications, satellite, telephone, data, and computer technologies as well as interoperable communications solutions. Course curriculum consists of a mix between

lecture/discussion classes and participation in hands-on activities to help the students develop essential core competencies required for performing the duties of a COMT. The students also had the opportunity to view the capabilities of Command-3 and the Durant Rapid Deployable Communications Trailer (RDT) on April 22. Special thanks to OMD's Bill Scott and the City of Durant's Ken Eppler for giving the students this opportunity!

The students are considered qualified COMTs upon completion of the course and go on to serve as a local resource for their home agency and/or jurisdiction. In addition to serving locally, a local COMT may elect to pursue state certification by completing a Position Task Book. Task books are initiated on the last day of the course and candidates have three (3) years from that date to complete them. Once a task book is completed, it is submitted to the COML – COMT Committee for approval. If the task book is approved, the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) signs for their state certification and the COMTs have the ability to be deployed during incidents statewide if they so choose.

There are currently 13 State-Certified COMTs in Oklahoma. If you would like more information on the COML – COMT Program, please visit ioc.ok.gov or you may contact the IOC Office via email: IOC@okohs.ok.gov.

Congratulations to our new State-Certified COML and COMTs

The IOC Office is excited to announce the newest members of our State-Certified COML and COMT Roster:

Shelby (Tie) Adcock – COMT
-City of Oklahoma City

Brett Conner – COMT
-Luther Fire Dept.

Rob Hill – COML / COMT
-Stillwater Fire Dept.

Jon Leach – COMT
-OK County Emergency Management

Jonathan Love – COMT
-City of Oklahoma City

Jim Morris – COMT
-City of Oklahoma City

Jeffrey Thrasher – COMT
-City of Durant

Mark Voyles – COML
-Edmond Fire Dept.

Jeanie Weaver – COML
-City of Tulsa

These individuals each completed their task book for state certification and were approved by our COML – COMT Committee on March 12, 2015. Congratulations to each of these dedicated COML/COMTs and thank you for your commitment and willingness to serve in Oklahoma's public safety communications!

OKPSBN Regional Awareness Summits

The Oklahoma Public Safety Broadband Network (OKPSBN) is currently hosting Regional Awareness Summits throughout the state.

The OKPSBN is designed to serve as Oklahoma's response to the FirstNet Initiative. FirstNet is the authority that will be developing a National Public Safety Broadband Network that will be available to first responders and emergency personnel.

Through this broadband network, responders will be able to communicate quickly with one another,

access online resources, connect to networks, and quickly transfer important video and data files during an incident. This network will also ensure that emergency responders receive priority access over other users in the network for quick time communications and access to data during an incident.

A requirement of the FirstNet initiative is that each state is required to hold informational meetings for public safety personnel. OKPSBN has decided to hold multiple

awareness summits around the state to ensure this information is properly shared to all stakeholders.

Ben Gherezgiher, from the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, serves as Oklahoma's lead in this initiative. Oklahoma SWIC Nikki Cassingham will also be in attendance at the summits to answer interoperability questions as they relate to the FirstNet initiative.

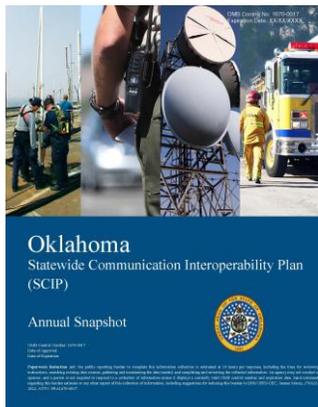
If you would like more information about the broadband initiative, please visit ok.gov/publicsafetybroadband



OKPSBN Summit Dates

- Northwest Awareness – Woodward: 05/26/15
- Tribal Awareness – Oklahoma City: 06/15/15
- Northeast Awareness – Coweta: 06/16/15
- East Central Awareness – Shawnee: 06/23/15
- West Central Awareness – El Reno: 06/24/15

2015 SCIP Snapshot



The Interoperable Communications Division of OKOHS submitted Oklahoma's Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) 2015 Annual Snapshot to the U.S.

Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications on March 19, 2015.

The SCIP Snapshot is a tool used by the OEC to give Congress an update on how each state is progressing with their interoperable communications efforts.

The tool allows states to provide specific examples of key accomplishments and key challenges they are experiencing with interoperability as well as provide updates on the progress made on (and/or

completion of) the goals listed in the SCIP.

Oklahoma reported many key accomplishments including: the purchase and placement of the Rapid Deployable Communications Trailers (RDTs), interoperability exercises with local, state, and tribal agencies, and the success of the Black Box Rodeo event. The key challenge reported was limited funding availability for interoperability.

If you would like to view the 2015 Oklahoma SCIP Snapshot, please visit ioc.ok.gov.

The IOC Website will be under construction from 06/01-06/30 as we transition to a NEW digital format!

If you need a resource from our website that is unavailable, please contact the IOC Office!

Interoperable Communications

PO Box 11415
Oklahoma City, OK 73136

PHONE:
(405) 425-7275

WEBSITE:
ioc.ok.gov

E-MAIL:
IOC@okohs.ok.gov



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Announcements

Congratulations to State-Certified COML, Jeanie Weaver (City of Tulsa), on her approval to serve as the Vice-Chairperson of the Oklahoma COML / COMT Committee!

Weaver was nominated and approved by the Committee at the quarterly meeting on 03/12/2015.

Weaver will serve as the Committee's POC for the eastern half of the state.

Announcements

The Oklahoma Wireless Information Network (OKWIN) has upgraded their website!

www.ok.gov/OKWIN

This newly formatted website includes an adaptability feature that allows the site and its content to be viewed and accessed from any internet capable device.

Announcements

The IOC Office is now on Social Media!

Beginning April of 2015, the IOC Office will be incorporating faucets of the social media sites Facebook and Twitter into their outreach efforts in order to provide the most up-to-date Interoperability News and Information.

Please "Like" Us on Facebook and "Follow" Us on Twitter!



Interoperability Continuum



Oklahoma has adopted the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum as a guide and directional goal to gain seamless communications interoperability across the state.

About the Oklahoma Interoperability Newsletter

The *Oklahoma Interoperability Newsletter* is designed to be a source of information, news, and updates for stakeholders committed to public safety communications interoperability in the state of Oklahoma. We hope that this newsletter will serve as a valuable resource for you. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, make comments or suggestions; please contact Nikki Cassingham at Nikki.Cassingham@okohs.ok.gov or James Hock at James.Hock@okohs.ok.gov.