



Standard Operating Procedure

Title / Subject

Channel Type Quick Reference

References/Updates:

Full channel type information located in the appropriate policy section, this sheet is for reference only.

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1. Changes Made

a. Any changes to this policy will be noted here;

1.	New Document	6/13/2017
2.		
3.		

2. Channel Type Table

a. For reference only, see the appropriate policies for full details.

BASIC CHANNELS				
DISPATCH	Used primarily to pass task assignments to units and for units to report status back to dispatch.	Each primary discipline has one channel assigned (LAW, Fire, EMS & EMA)	DIS or DISP XXX LAW or XXX FIRE	NO ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
TACTICAL	A channel to which an incident may move for operations.	Each county has 4 General Tactical channels which can be used as needed by all services	TAC	ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
SECURE TACTICAL	Channels for secure (encrypted) communications, these cannot be used for primary dispatch	Each county has 2 SECTAC channels available for use as needed by all services	SECTAC	ENCRYPTION REQUIRED
POLICE TACTICAL	A police tactical channel to which an incident may move for tactical operations. Law Enforcement Only.	Each county has 2 P-Tac channels available and are for Law Enforcement Only	PTAC or P-TAC	ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
ALL ***	A common, non-dispatch channel used for agencies of the same discipline to communicate without using the primary dispatch channel	Each county has 1 talkgroup for each primary discipline (Law, Fire, EMS)	ALL (Some Counties use this talkgroup as a discipline Private or PVT)	ENCRYPTION PERMITTED

TALK	A common, non-dispatch channel for all disciplines to communicate for non specific incident related or general discussions	Each county has 2 Talk Channels available and can be use by any service	TLK or TALK	NO ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
EVENTS	For special event operations that are preplanned events or can be used for tactical operations overflow	Each county has 4 event channels available for use and should be included in all radios	EVENT OR EVT	NO ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
PRIVATE	Channel used by one agency for internal communications. Not intended as an interoperable channel	Each discipline has one private channel and each participating agency may request an agency private.	PVT	ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
HOSPITAL	A hospital utilizing the WVSIRN system.	Each hospital in WV has at least one talkgroup assigned, also see the Medical Command talkgroups.	HOSP OR HSP	NO ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Channels used for the Board of Education to coordinate activities within the county.	Each County initially has 4 BOE channels assigned and should be included as needed for operation with the BOE.	BOE	ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	Channels used by the County Health Department either internal or external.	Each County initially has 2 Health Department Channels assigned to be used as needed for operations with the HD.	HD or HEALTH	ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Channels used for government operations, usually not public safety.	Each County initially has 2 government channels assigned, Local Govt and County Govt.	LOCL GOV or CNTY GOV	ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
HAIL	Channel used to contact a command post for assignment of another channel for operations, use varies by county.	Each County has 1 Hail channel to be used as needed for operation.	HAIL	NO ENCRYPTION PERMITTED
Channels have other restrictions and uses, be sure to check the policy before programming and use				
REGIONAL CHANNELS				
COMMAND	Use for Command operations during a regional event.	1 Per Region, Valid in ALL Radios	Abbreviation is CMD or COMMAND	
DISCIPLINE	Used for operations within the specified discipline.	Each Region has 1 of the following, and only valid in the specified service type of the radio LAW, FIRE, EMS, EMA, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HOSPITAL, BOARD OF EDUCATION AND TASK FORCE	Abbreviations are LAW, FIRE, EMS, EMA, HEALTH (HLTH), HOSPITAL (HOSP), BOE, T-FORCE (TF)	
TACTICAL	Used for tactical operations within the region.	Each Region has 10 Tactical Channels (01-10), these are valid in all SIRN radios, and should be included if channel space allows	Tac channels should be labeled TAC 01, TAC 02, etc. Or T-1, T-2, etc.	
TALK	Used for general radio traffic within the region, could also be used as spare operations channels if needed.	Each region has 2 Talk Channels (1 & 2), these are valid in all SIRN radios, and should be included if channel space allows.	Talk channels should be labeled TALK 1, TALK 2 or TLK-1, TLK-2	
DISPATCH	Used for 911 or Dispatch Centers to communicate on a regional level. Also could be used for MEOC operations.	Each region has 1 Dispatch Channel, this channel should only be included in 911 Centers, Dispatch Centers, Mobile EOC's or their staff that would need such operation.	Dispatch channels should be labeled DISP or DISPATCH	
911 TALKGROUPS	See the 911 Talkgroup Policy Section			
Regional Channels have other restrictions and uses, be sure to check the policy before programming and use **No Regional Channel shall be encrypted**				

SPECIAL USE CHANNELS				
NATIONAL INTEROP	National Conventional Public Safety Interoperability Channel (NPSTC). Repeated or Direct. Channel names should follow the most current NIFOG.	These are NOT SIRN channels however should be included in all radios to permit proper interoperability when needed.	Refer to the current NIFOG for proper programming information	NO
BSA	Talkgroups assigned to support the Boy Scout Jamboree and other events at the property. BSA 01-32 – for BSA use. BSA 33-64 – for use by public safety at the BSA site or in conjunction with BSA outreach operations.	These channels are only valid as needed, but should be included in all radios that channel capacity allows.	Refer to the BSA section of this policy for more information	NO
MEDICAL COMMAND	Medical Command utilizing the WVSIRN system. (See Medical Command Channel Policy Section)			NO
HELO	Conventional Channels that are utilized for Air to Ground Operations with Aeromedical Aircraft, see the Medical Command Channel Policy Section.			NO
DOT	The talkgroup DOT-3, which is the Traffic Management Center talkgroup, is used to communicate with DOT/DOH units as well as the Traffic Management Center (TMC).	This channel is valid for Emergency Management Administrative Staff, 911 Center and EOC only.	DOT-3/TMC	NO
NATIONAL GUARD	These channels are used to communicate with the WV National Guard to coordinate details and makes requests to the JOC.	They are valid for 911 Centers, Emergency Management and certain others as needed to fulfill missions. Contact the WV National Guard Communications Section for specific use authorization.	Channel Specific, Contact National Guard Communications	NO
AGRICULTURE	The WV Department of Agriculture permits the use of their DOA-1 talkgroup as needed for coordination with them on details and functions.	It is valid for 911 Centers and Emergency Management.	AG-1	NO
STATE POLICE DISPATCH	These talkgroups are to be used to communicate with the WV State Police Dispatch and State Police units.	Primary dispatch talkgroups are valid for Law Enforcement Units and 911 Centers Only.	SP(LOCATION) SP BECK OR SP BECKLEY	NO
CORRECTIONS	These talkgroups are used to communicate with the WVDOC dispatch centers, facilities and field units for interagency response.	They are valid for Law Enforcement, 911 Centers; this is for the primary dispatch talkgroups of each facility and for the statewide dispatch talkgroup.		
SOS	See the SOS section of the Policy for details			
DHSEM	These channels are monitored 24/7 by the WV Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management. This will allow direct communications with the state EOC.	These channels are valid for Emergency Management, 911 Centers and State or Federal Agencies that must coordinate with the state EOC.	DHSEM-1 DHSEM-2	NO
TURNPIKE	The “Turnpike General” (TP General) talkgroup is used for units to talk to the Turnpike Control Center to coordinate operations.	This talkgroup is valid in radios that border the Turnpike and/or Evacuation Routes that are assigned to Emergency Management Administrative Staff, 911 Center, EOC and Mobile Operations Units only.	TPK GEN or TURNPIKE GENERAL	NO
DNR	These are used to communicate with the WVDNR dispatch and field units for interagency response.	Valid for Law Enforcement, 911 Centers; this is for the primary dispatch talkgroups only.	DNR(LOCATION)DNR BECK OR DNR BECKLEY	