

Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission (AFRWC)

# ALABAMA STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION INTEROPERABILITY PLAN



**November 2018**

Developed with Support from the  
US Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Communications

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## LETTER FROM THE SWIC

Greetings,

I am pleased to provide to you the 2018 Alabama Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP). This SCIP represents Alabama's continued commitment to improving emergency communications interoperability and supporting the public safety practitioner community throughout the state. This SCIP is an adjunct to and complements the State of Alabama Emergency Operations Plan. In addition, updating the SCIP is also a requirement of the recently released FY2018 DHS grant guidelines as well as designating a full time Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC).

Representatives from the Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission (AFRWC) and state and local agencies collaborated to update the SCIP to include actionable and measurable goals and objectives. These goals and objectives focus on Governance, Technology, and Funding, and are designed to support our state in planning for new technologies and navigating the ever-changing emergency communications ecosystem. They also incorporate action items / goals identified by Alabama during the National Governors Association (NGA) Northeast Regional Workshop held in Philadelphia on July 24-26, 2018. These SCIP objectives also complement the State of Alabama Emergency Operations Plan.

As we continue to enhance interoperability, we must remain dedicated and continue to improve our ability to communicate among disciplines and across jurisdictional boundaries. With help from public safety practitioners statewide, we will work to achieve the goals set forth in this SCIP and become a nationwide model for statewide interoperability.

Sincerely,

Jeb Hargrove  
Alabama Statewide Interoperability Coordinator





## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On August 9, 2018, Alabama hosted a Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Workshop to develop goals to improve interoperable emergency communications in three key areas: Governance, Technology, and Funding. Alabama's SWIC Jeb Hargrove designed and conducted the SCIP Workshop after attending the National Governor's Association (NGA) Regional Meeting in Philadelphia on July 24-26, 2018. During the NGA meeting, participants identified action initiatives to support efforts to revitalize the state's governance structure that were then utilized in the planning for the SCIP Workshop. Participants at the SCIP Workshop included representatives from state and local emergency management agencies, 9-1-1, Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, Alabama Forestry Commission, and FirstNet Program in the Office of Information Technology (OIT).

The Alabama SCIP is a stakeholder-driven, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-disciplinary statewide strategic planning tool to help Alabama prioritize resources, strengthen governance, identify future investments, and address interoperability gaps. This SCIP is an adjunct to and complements the State of Alabama Emergency Operations Plan.

During the SCIP workshop, participants developed goals to:

- Create a governance model for public safety broadband;
- Refine the scope of the AFRWC;
- Formalize the Communications Unit program;
- Enhance collaboration between the AFRWC and 9-1-1 Board;
- Support the statewide implementation of NG9-1-1;
- Enhance interoperable public safety communications statewide;
- Establish interoperability between P25 systems;
- Interoperability between cellular carriers for public safety broadband;
- Review and integrate emergency alerting systems;
- Enhance additional comprehensive emergency communications response systems and tools; and
- Establish a sustainable funding mechanism to support the operations of the AFRWC.

Each of the goals and objectives have been assigned an owner, timeline and measurement, and will be reviewed during AFRWC meetings.

As mentioned, this updated SCIP supports the fulfillment of requirements included in the FY2018 DHS State Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Notice of Funding Opportunity. It requires that all states and territories update their SCIP by the end of the FY 2018 HSGP period of performance (36 months), with a focus on communications resilience/continuity, to include assessment and mitigation of all potential risks



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## INTRODUCTION



### Guiding Approach / Principles

The flow of information and communications among government agencies, the private sector, the public sector and, in some cases, entities from neighboring states, is being impacted by the modernization of the technology and practice of emergency communications.

The deployment of FirstNet, wireless broadband networks and applications will greatly influence incident operations as they become more prevalent and are more widely adopted by emergency responders. In addition to FirstNet, there are also efforts to update the Nation's 9-1-1 infrastructure to Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1), and the recent deployment of a nationwide public alerting system that uses traditional media, such as broadcast and cable, as well as Internet Protocol-based technologies to transmit alerts to mobile phones and other devices. When considering and preparing for these changes to the emergency communication's landscape, Alabama has developed a new SCIP using a holistic approach to strategic planning that incorporates the emergency communications ecosystem and the Interoperability Continuum.

The broader emergency communications ecosystem consists of many inter-related components and functions, including communications for incident response operations, notifications and alerts and warnings, requests for assistance and reporting, and public



information exchange. The primary functions of the emergency communications ecosystem are depicted in the 2014 National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP)<sup>1</sup>.

The Interoperability Continuum<sup>2</sup> serves as a framework to address challenges and continue improving operable/interoperable and emergency communications. It is designed to assist emergency response agencies and policy makers with planning and implementing interoperability solutions for voice and data communications.

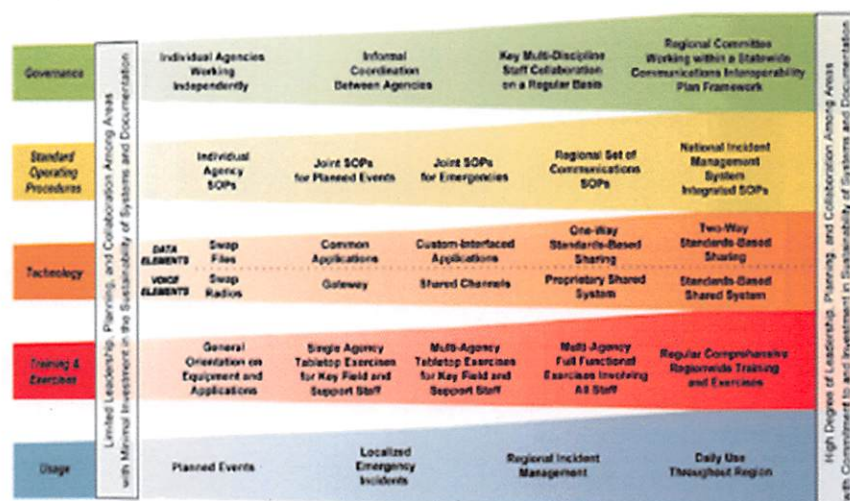


Figure 1: SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum

During the Alabama SCIP Workshop and preceding engagements, participants considered the core elements of the Continuum when reviewing the current and desired states of interoperability within the state.

The 2012 State of Alabama Emergency Operations Plan<sup>3</sup> does not reference the SCIP, but it is currently being updated and awaiting approval and will include mention of other important communications plans in the state.

<sup>1</sup> The 2014 NECP can be found here: <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/2014-national-emergency-communications-plan>

<sup>2</sup> The SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum is available here: <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/oecguidancedocuments/continuum/Default.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> The State of Alabama Emergency Operations Plan (Feb 2012) can be found here: <https://ema.alabama.gov/state-of-alabama-emergency-operations-plan/>





## Vision & Mission

The following outline Alabama's Vision and Mission for public safety communications:

### Vision:

*The Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission's (AFRWC) vision is to strengthen public safety emergency communications and interoperability and to create a unified and integrated voice/data communications platform, with the technology, equipment, and procedures necessary to allow first responder and public safety agencies at the State, county, Tribal, and municipal levels to communicate to safely, effectively, and efficiently to protect the people of Alabama.*

### Mission:

*The mission of the AFRWC is to establish and sustain innovative consensus-based approaches to mission-critical wireless communications technology and interagency partnerships that lead to seamless communications among public safety agencies serving the citizens of Alabama.*

*Responsibilities of the Commission include:*

- *Strategic planning of public safety spectrum and serving as the intergovernmental bridge between Federal, State, local, Tribal, and private entities to foster and promote collaboration and information sharing*
- *Promoting the efficient use of public resources to ensure that essential public safety personnel have effective communications*
- *Planning, building, implementing and maintaining radio access networks and their application in public safety, public health, and public works*







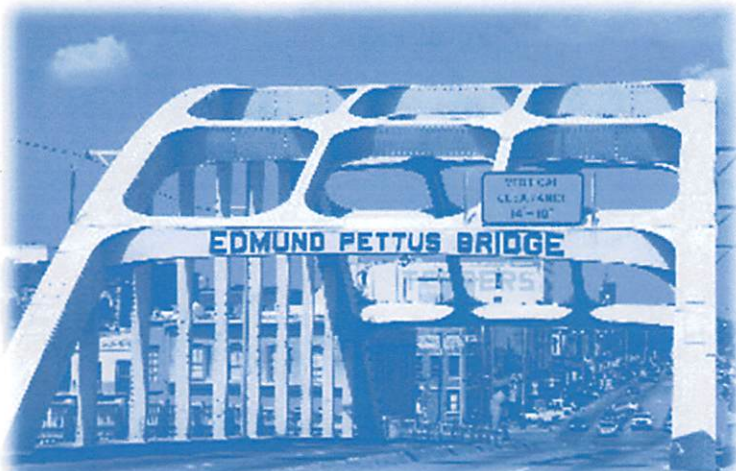
## Alabama SCIP Overview

- **Overview of Goals & Objectives.** Provides an executive summary of the SCIP goals and objectives and their intended benefits.
- **Governance & Coordination.** Describes the current governance mechanisms for communications interoperability within the state along with successes, challenges, and priorities for improving governance within the evolving landscape.
- **Technology & Operations.** Describes the core systems used to support public safety communications within the state and the technological and operational enhancements needed to maintain and enhance interoperability across the emergency communications ecosystem.
- **Funding & Sustainment.** Describes the funding sources and allocations that support interoperable communications capabilities within the state along with methods and strategies for funding sustainment and enhancement into the future.
- **Implementation Plan.** Describes how the State plans to implement, maintain, and update the SCIP to enable continued evolution of and progress toward the State's interoperability goals.





## OVERVIEW OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



### Governance & Coordination

Refine the scope of the AFRWC and establish working groups to assign tasking



### Technology & Operations

Maintain and enhance existing systems and adopt emerging technologies with a focus on LMR, public safety broadband, 9-1-1/NG9-1-1, and Alerts and Warnings



### Funding & Sustainment

Sustainable funding to hire a full-time staff member to support Commission efforts





## Goals, Objectives & Benefits

The following section provides a high-level overview of the Alabama SCIP goals, objectives and benefits, and how activities outlined in this SCIP can drive advancements in interoperability capabilities throughout the state.

Goal	Objectives	Benefits
Create a governance model for public safety broadband	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a Broadband &amp; Interoperability Working Group under the AFRWC</li> <li>Develop SOPs for public safety broadband interoperability across all carriers</li> <li>Establish an outreach and education plan related to public safety broadband</li> <li>Develop standardized procedure for integrating LMR with cellular PTT</li> </ul>	Working groups serve as a resource to the AFRWC to assign tasking
Refine the scope of the AFRWC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish an FTE to support the operations of the AFRWC</li> <li>Identify subject matter experts (SMEs) that can serve as non-voting, or advisory, members and educate the AFRWC</li> <li>Establish a Legislative Working Group to examine laws and identify champions in the Legislature based on the current technologies and government structure</li> </ul>	Provides the AFRWC with a clear vision or objective and SMEs assist working groups in new and existing communications initiatives
Formalize the Communications Unit program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a Communications Unit Working Group (voice and data) under the AFRWC</li> <li>Publish operating procedures for the Communications Unit program</li> </ul>	Promotes consistent communications-focused training statewide
Enhance collaboration between the AFRWC and 9-1-1 Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include the Executive Director or their designee of the 9-1-1 Board as a contributor to the AFRWC and its working groups</li> <li>Coordinated outreach and education and sharing of information</li> </ul>	Promotes awareness and sharing of information across the different public safety communications organizations





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration on emerging/integrating technologies</li> </ul>	
Support the statewide implementation of NG9-1-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buildout of ESInet</li> <li>• Implementation of NG9-1-1 as outlined in the State 9-1-1 Plan</li> </ul>	Illustrates the AFRWC's support of 9-1-1 Board initiatives
Enhance interoperable public safety communications statewide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure every public safety agency has a programming template for national and statewide interoperability channels/talk groups</li> <li>• Create and maintain an interoperability portal for first responders in Alabama</li> <li>• Advocate for local use of interoperability channels through the development of standard operating guidelines (SOGs)</li> <li>• Conduct statewide interoperability drill</li> <li>• Work with state purchasing to ensure that interoperability channels are part of the contract</li> <li>• Develop an eFOG for Alabama</li> <li>• Update county TICPs and create divisional communications plans</li> </ul>	Supports the development and use of procedural documents
Establish interoperability between P25 systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete connectivity between current P25 systems</li> <li>• Develop a standardized plan for future system to system connectivity</li> </ul>	Enhances interoperability across existing disparate systems and paves the way for future connectivity
Interoperability between cellular carriers for public safety broadband	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage interoperability for PTT between all carriers operating in Alabama</li> <li>• Encourage interoperability between public safety apps across all carriers operating in Alabama</li> <li>• Create standardized talk group naming for PTT interoperability across all carriers operating in Alabama</li> </ul>	Enhances interoperability across all carriers operating in the state
Review and integrate emergency alerting systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All 67 counties and 1 tribe have IPAWS alerting authority</li> </ul>	Promotes an integrated system for alerting and mass notifications



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify alternate means for local and statewide notifications using non-traditional systems</li><li>• Develop a single, statewide mass notification system</li></ul>	
Enhance additional comprehensive emergency communications response and tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain and update the strategic technology reserve (STR) assets to keep up with emerging technologies</li><li>• Enhance the State's geospatial visualization platform</li><li>• Technology identified and imported into CASM</li></ul>	Raises awareness about the STR and other communications assets
Establish a sustainable funding mechanism to support the operations of the AFRWC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify a sustainable funding source</li></ul>	Ensures the AFRWC will have full-time support to lead efforts





## GOVERNANCE & COORDINATION

### Current State of Governance

The Alabama First Responders Wireless Commission (AFRWC), or the Commission, was created in 2012 by Executive Order to address public safety emergency and interoperable communications in the state and has Two working groups, the Broadband & Interoperability Working Group and the Policy and Procedures Working Group. The Commission serves as the Statewide Interoperability Governance Body (SIGB) and is comprised of 27 commissioners (or their designee) from multiple state, local, and tribal public safety organizations and professional associations, including the SWIC and SPOC. They meet quarterly, and participants are very engaged. However, the Commission does not have a clear objective or mission following the state's opt-in decision and a lack of funding and support staff continues to pose a challenge.

During the NGA Regional Meeting in July 2018, the state team identified the following activities that may be aligned with SCIP initiatives:

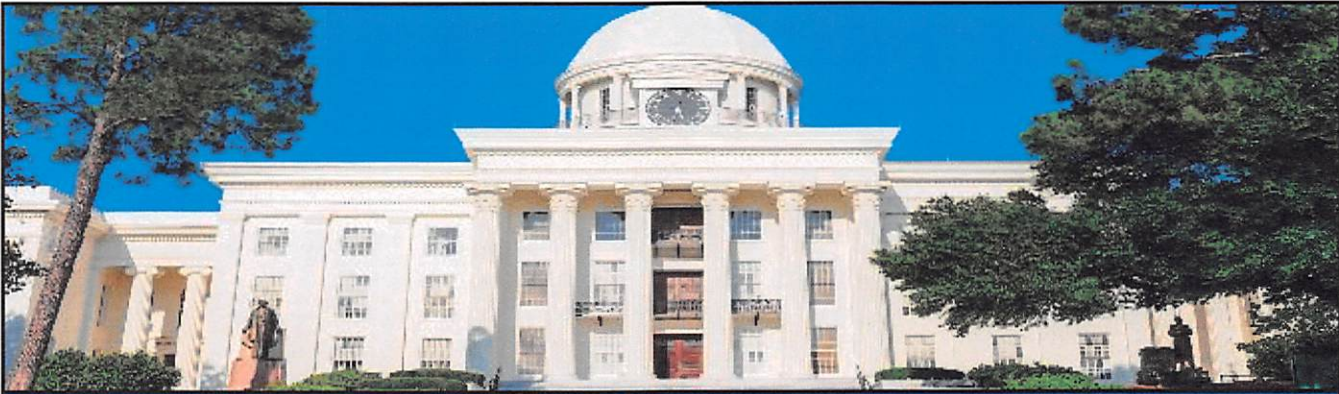
NGA Regional Meeting – Alabama Activities	
➤	A plan to reengage the Division Advisory Councils (DACs)
➤	Greater involvement of wireless alerting organizations in Commission activities
➤	Provision of funding for a full-time staff member to manage the Commission
➤	A plan to finish the Statewide COMU structure
➤	A process for training, education, and outreach – e.g. a clearinghouse (via the Commission website) to let Public Safety know when and what training is coming up, provide After Action Reports, and be a one-stop-shop for Public Safety information needs for communications.
➤	A plan to connect ACUs in every county. Currently each county has one, but they are not all connected to each other – this effort will be the completion of a project that was started previously
➤	A plan for standardization of statewide mass notifications (right now each county is an alerting authority – Amber Alerts and CEM are standardized but others are not. The others are done county by county)
➤	Increased coordination between the Commission and the AL 9-1-1 Board
➤	A solution to address PTT interoperability and interoperability between wireless providers generally
➤	Updated SOPs
➤	Additional planning for LMR/AIRS
➤	A plan for instilling a culture of cybersecurity awareness across the state





These activities were incorporated into the facilitated discussion on developing new SCIP goals.

**Governance Goals and Objectives include the following:**



Goal	Objectives
<p><b>Create a governance model for public safety broadband</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a Broadband &amp; Interoperability Working Group under the AFRWC</li> <li>• Develop SOPs for public safety broadband interoperability across all carriers</li> <li>• Establish an outreach and education plan related to public safety broadband</li> <li>• Develop standardized procedure for integrating LMR with cellular PTT</li> </ul>
<p><b>Refine the scope of the AFRWC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an FTE to support the operations of the AFRWC</li> <li>• Identify subject matter experts (SMEs) that can serve as non-voting, or advisory, members and educate the AFRWC</li> <li>• Establish a Legislative Working Group to examine the law and identify champions in the Legislature based on the current technologies and government structure</li> </ul>
<p><b>Formalize the Communications Unit program</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a Communications Unit Working Group (voice and data) under the AFRWC</li> <li>• Publish operating procedures for the Communications Unit program</li> </ul>



## TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS

### Current State of Technology

#### Land Mobile Radio (LMR)

Alabama does not have a single, unified statewide radio system. Existing systems being utilized include the AIRS 700 MHz system, conventional VHF/UHF, and Southern Linc. There is a P25 buildout at the local level, however, the systems are disparate. The state is trying to work towards a solution that will bridge the gaps between the major systems across the state, but funding and lack of awareness continues to be a challenge.

#### Public Safety Broadband

Alabama is keeping up-to-date with the planning and build-out of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). In 2017, Alabama opted-in to FirstNet.


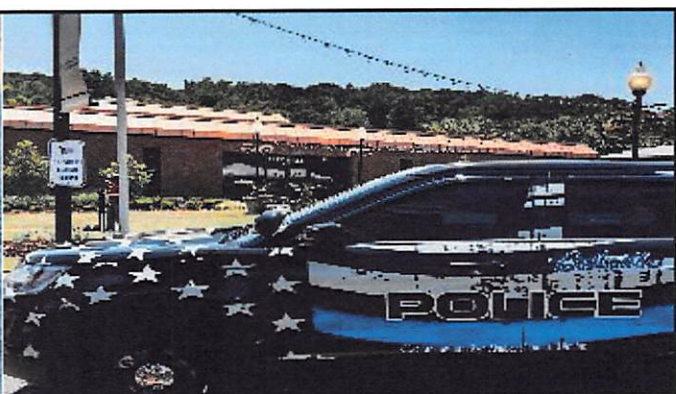
#### 9-1-1 / Next Generation 9-1-1

The Alabama 9-1-1 Board is the organization responsible for and funds 9-1-1 in the state. There are 120 PSAPs in the state and there is 100% participation in and support of the implementation of NextGen technology, including text-to-9-1-1.

#### Alerts & Warnings

The Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) is responsible for alerts and warnings. Currently, 30-40% of counties have IPAWS alerting authority; AEMA's goal is to reach 100%.

**Technology Goals and Objectives include the following:**

	
Goal	Objectives





<b>Enhance collaboration between the AFRWC and 9-1-1 Board</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include the Executive Director or their designee of the 9-1-1 Board as a contributor to the AFRWC and its working groups</li> <li>• Coordinated outreach and education and sharing of information</li> <li>• Collaboration on emerging/integrating technologies</li> </ul>
<b>Support the statewide implementation of NG9-1-1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buildout of ESInet</li> <li>• Implementation of NG9-1-1 as outlined in the State 9-1-1 Plan</li> </ul>
<b>Enhance interoperable public safety communications statewide</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure every public safety agency has a programming template for national and statewide interoperability channels/talk groups</li> <li>• Create and maintain an interoperability portal for first responders in Alabama</li> <li>• Advocate for local use of interoperability channels through the development of standard operating guidelines (SOGs)</li> <li>• Conduct statewide interoperability drill</li> <li>• Work with state purchasing to ensure that interoperability channels are part of the contract</li> <li>• Develop an eFOG for Alabama</li> <li>• Update county TICPs and create divisional communications plans</li> </ul>
<b>Establish interoperability between P25 systems</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete connectivity between current P25 systems</li> <li>• Develop a standardized plan for future system to system connectivity</li> </ul>
<b>Interoperability between cellular carriers for public safety broadband</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage interoperability for PTT between all carriers operating in Alabama</li> <li>• Encourage interoperability between public safety apps across all carriers operating in Alabama</li> <li>• Create standardized talk group naming for PTT interoperability across all carriers operating in Alabama</li> </ul>
<b>Review and integrate emergency alerting systems</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All 67 counties and 1 tribe have IPAWS alerting authority</li> <li>• Identify alternate means for local and statewide notifications using non-traditional systems</li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a single, statewide mass notification system</li></ul>
<b>Enhance additional comprehensive emergency communications response and tools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain and update STR assets to keep up with emerging technologies</li><li>• Enhance the State's geospatial visualization platform</li><li>• Technology identified and imported into CASM</li></ul>



## FUNDING & SUSTAINMENT

### Funding Priorities

Alabama has prioritized the hiring of a full-time staff member to support Commission efforts and outreach as the first and most critical step in addressing all gaps and challenges discussed.

**Funding Goals and Objectives include the following:**

	
Goal	Objectives
Establish a sustainable funding mechanism to support the operations of the AFRWC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify a sustainable funding source</li></ul>



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## IMPLEMENTATION / EVALUATION / PROGRESS MEASUREMENT / DHS SUPPORT

The SWIC serves as the chief administrator of the SCIP and is responsible for tracking progress towards achieving the SCIP goals. The AFRWC will add the goals and objectives assigned to its working groups as formal agenda items for review and oversight during regular meetings. The SWIC and working group members will provide status updates and coordinate collaborative action and planning to ensure continued progress. The AFRWC will also conduct a thorough review of the SCIP on a biennial basis to update goals and objectives to address identified needs and advancements involving statewide emergency communications capabilities. See Appendix A for the SCIP Implementation Plan.

Each year, OEC works with all 56 states and territories in measuring progress towards implementing SCIP goals / strategies through the annual SCIP Snapshot process. Findings from the reporting help identify successes and challenges in meeting goals and helps OEC provide targeted technical assistance in the form of training and resources offered through its Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP).

Requests for technical assistance are coordinated through the Alabama SWIC on a rolling basis.

For more information please contact the OEC Region IV Coordinator Pam Montanari at [Pam.Montanari@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:Pam.Montanari@hq.dhs.gov) or the OEC general email at [OEC@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:OEC@hq.dhs.gov).





## APPENDIX A: SCIP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

	Goal	Objectives	Measurement	Owner	Completion Date
Governance & Coordination	Create a governance model for public safety broadband	1.1 Establish a Broadband & Interoperability Working Group under the AFRWC	Broadband & Interoperability Working Group established with membership identified and meetings scheduled with identified purpose	AFRWC	January 2019
		1.2 Develop SOPs for public safety broadband interoperability across all the carriers	Developed approved and tested SOPs to provide interoperability across all carriers	Broadband & Interoperability Working Group	January 2020, on-going
		1.3 Establish an outreach and education plan related to public safety broadband	Developed approved and executed outreach and education plan	AFRWC, Broadband & Interoperability Working Group	January 2019, on-going
		1.4 Develop standardized procedure for integrating LMR with cellular PTT	Developed approved and tested standardized procedure for integrating LMR with cellular PTT	Broadband & Interoperability Working Group	March 2019, on-going
	Refine the scope of the AFRWC	2.1 Establish an FTE to support the operations of the AFRWC	Sustainably funded, advertised and hired a full-time employee	AFRWC	October 1, 2019
		2.2 Identify subject matter experts (SMEs) that can serve as non-voting (advisory) members and educate the AFRWC	Attendance and participation by SMEs at AFRWC meetings	AFRWC	March 2019, on-going



Technology & Operations		2.3 Establish a Legislative Working Group to examine the law and identify champions in the Legislature based on current technologies and government structure	Legislative Working Group established with membership identified and meetings scheduled with identified purpose	AFRWC	January 2019, on-going
	Formalize the Communications Unit program	3.1 Establish a Communications Unit (voice and data) Working Group under the AFRWC	Communications Unit Working Group established with membership identified and meetings scheduled with identified purpose	SWIC, AFRWC, State Training Officer	January 2019, on-going
		3.2 Publish operating procedures for the Communications Unit program	Guidance established for Communications Unit personnel	Communications Unit Working Group	January 2020, on-going
	Enhance collaboration between the AFRWC and 9-1-1 Board	4.1 Include Executive Director or their designee of the 9-1-1 Board as a contributor to the AFRWC and working groups	Executive Director or their designee attends and participates in AFRWC and working groups meetings	Broadband & Interoperability Working Group	January 2019
		4.2 Coordinated outreach and education and sharing of information	Expanded outreach to diverse stakeholder groups	AFRWC, 9-1-1 Board	July 2019, on-going
		4.3 Collaboration on emerging/integrating technologies	Reduction in duplication of efforts and efficient use of resources	AFRWC, 9-1-1 Board	January 2019, on-going
	Support the statewide implementation of NG9-1-1	5.1 Buildout of ESInet	Successful buildout of ESInet	9-1-1 Board	December 2019
		5.2 Implementation of NG9-1-1 as	Incorporate emerging technologies in all 9-	9-1-1 Board	In-progress and on-going





		outlined in the State 9-1-1 Plan	1-1 centers in Alabama		
Enhance interoperable public safety communications statewide	6.1 Ensure every public safety agency has programming template for national and statewide interoperability channels/talk groups	Distributed programming template	SWIC, AEMA	July 2019, on-going	
	6.2 Create and maintain an interoperability portal for first responders in Alabama	Published website with access for first responders	SWIC	January 2019, on-going	
	6.3 Advocate for local use of interoperability channels through the development of standard operating guidelines (SOGs)	Input collected from DACs and SOGs developed accordingly	DACs	January 2020, on-going	
	6.4 Conduct statewide interoperability drill	Capabilities determined within the 7 DACs	SWIC	January 2020	
	6.5 Work with state purchasing to ensure that interoperability channels are part of the contract	Provision included in purchasing contract	SWIC	October 2019, on-going	
	6.6 Develop an eFOG for Alabama	Distribute to first responders	SWIC	Development in-progress, on-going	
	6.7 Update county TICPs and create divisional communications plans	All 67 counties and 1 tribe have TICPs and 7 divisional communications plans	SWIC	January 2020, on-going	
Establish interoperability	7.1 Complete connectivity between current P25 systems	Expands interoperability across the state	Local agencies	In-progress	



	between P25 systems	7.2 Develop a standardized plan for future system to system connectivity	Distributed plan to raise education and awareness	Broadband & Interoperability Working Group	January 2020
	Interoperability between cellular carriers for public safety broadband	8.1 Encourage interoperability for push-to-talk between all carriers operating in Alabama	Ability for public safety agencies to talk across carriers on common talk groups	AFRWC	April 2019
		8.2 Encourage interoperability between public safety apps across all carriers operating in Alabama	Ability for public safety agencies to share information	AFRWC	April 2019
		8.3 Create standardized talk group naming for PTT interoperability across all carriers operating in Alabama	Talk groups names created and publicized and existing devices updated to add talk group names	Broadband & Interoperability Working Group	January 2019, on-going
	Review and integrate emergency alerting systems	9.1 All 67 counties and 1 tribe have IPAWS alerting authority	All 67 counties and 1 tribe have been issued a COG	AEMA	January 2020, on-going
		9.2 Identify alternate means for local and statewide notifications using non-traditional systems	Enhance public awareness of emergency situations	AEMA, 9-1-1 Board, AFRWC	July 2019
		9.3 Develop a single statewide mass notification system	Single statewide mass notification system in place for all citizens in Alabama	AEMA, AFRWC	January 2020
	Enhance additional comprehensive emergency	10.1 Maintain and update STR assets to keep up with	Provides interoperability	AEMA	In-progress and on-going





	<b>communications response systems and tools</b>	emerging technologies	during planned and unplanned events		
		10.2 Enhance the State's geospatial visualization platform	Provides GIS data sharing statewide	ALEA, GIS	In-progress and on- going
		10.3 Technology identified and imported into CASM	Provides an inventory of communications assets to stakeholders	AEMA, Broadband & Interoperability Working Group	In-progress and on- going
<b>Funding &amp; Sustainment</b>	<b>Establish a sustainable funding mechanism to support the operations of the AFRWC</b>	11.1 Identify a sustainable funding source	Sustainable funding source identified	AFRWC	January 2019



## APPENDIX B: SIGNATORIES



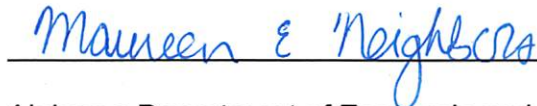
Governor or their designee



Alabama Department of Transportation




Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency



Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs



Alabama Emergency Management Agency



Alabama Department of Corrections

Alabama Department of Finance

Alabama Department of Public Health

Alabama Sheriff's Association





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Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police

*Greg McPherson*

Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments

*Garson J. Vallance*

Alabama National Guard

*Chris Lewis*

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

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Alabama Alcohol Beverage Control Board

*Ad Hany*

Alabama Association of Emergency Managers

*Jon A. Ford*

Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs

*James Et Blair*


Alabama Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association

*Mark Dancy*

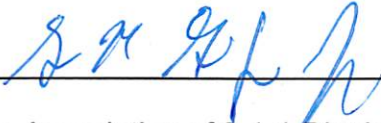
Alabama Association of County Commissions



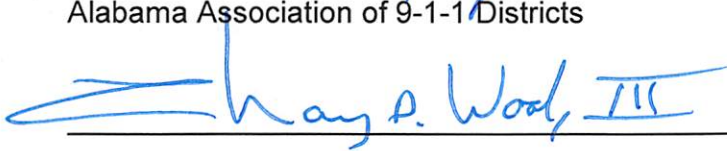
Alabama League of Municipalities



Poarch Band of Creek Indians



Alabama Association of 9-1-1 Districts



Alabama Association of Rescue Squads

Alabama Forestry Commission



Federal Communications Commission Region 1, 700MHz Regional Planning Committee



Alabama Statewide Interoperability Coordinator



Alabama State Fire Marshal



Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries





## APPENDIX C: LIST OF ACRONYMS

DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
DHSEM	Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
DoIT	Department of Information Technology
DPS	Department of Public Safety
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
ICTAP	Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program
IPAWS	Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
IPC	Interoperability Planning Commission
ITC	Information Technology Commission
LMR	Land Mobile Radio
MHz	Megahertz
NECP	National Emergency Communications Plan
NG9-1-1	Next Generation 9-1-1
OEC	Office of Emergency Communications
P25	Project 25
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
SCIP	Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan
SICWG	Statewide Interoperable Communications Working Group
SPOC	Single Point of Contact
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator

