

# How Should Your Community Prepare for Upcoming Opportunities to Build Public Safety Wireless?

Rob Dickerson  
Prince William County, Virginia  
NATOA representative to SAFECOM ERC  
(703) 792-6620  
[rdickerson@pwcgov.org](mailto:rdickerson@pwcgov.org)

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# Overview

- I. Interoperability, SAFECOM, the ERC, and the EC
- II. The Continuum
- III. Public Safety Communications Evolution
- IV. FCC Charlotte Decision

# Broadband Public Safety Benefits

- Video of Crime in Progress
- Fingerprints and Other Detainee Data
- Automatic License Plate Readers
- Review Building Plans Immediately
- Access to Other Data Bases
- Medical Telemetry

# INTEROPERABILITY

- Wireless communications interoperability specifically refers to the ability of emergency response officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized.

## SAFECOM, the ERC and the EC

- <http://www.safecomprogram.gov>
- SAFECOM provides research, development, testing and evaluation, guidance, tools, and templates on communications-related issues to local, tribal, state, and Federal emergency response agencies working to improve emergency response through more effective and efficient interoperable wireless communications.
- Program of the Department of Homeland Security,
- Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) and Office of Emergency Communications (OEC)
- Any comments or questions for OEC should be directed to **[OEC@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:OEC@hq.dhs.gov)**

# OEC Mission

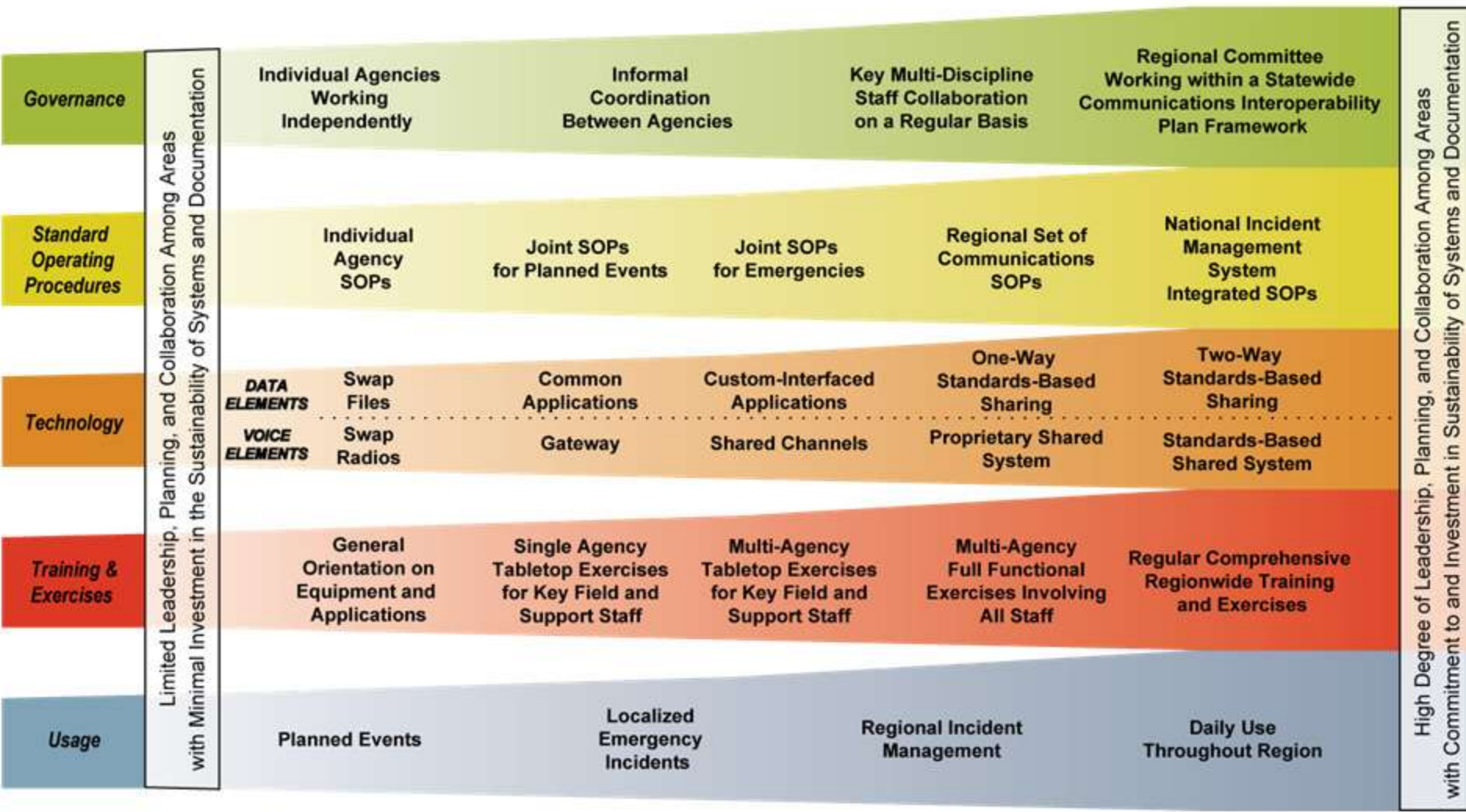
**The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) supports and promotes the ability of emergency responders and government officials to communicate in the event of natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disasters, and works to ensure, accelerate, and attain interoperable and operable emergency communications nationwide.**

# OEC Service Offerings

- Coordination and Collaboration
- Policy and Planning
- Technical Assistance
- Grant Guidance



# Interoperability Continuum



Limited Leadership, Planning, and Collaboration Among Areas with Minimal Investment in the Sustainability of Systems and Documentation

High Degree of Leadership, Planning, and Collaboration Among Areas with Commitment to and Investment in Sustainability of Systems and Documentation

# National and Statewide Plans

- **Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans (SCIPs)**
- **National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP)**
- **Updates to the NECP**



National Summary of Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans (SCIPs)

February 2009



National Emergency Communications Plan

July 2008



# Guidance Documents

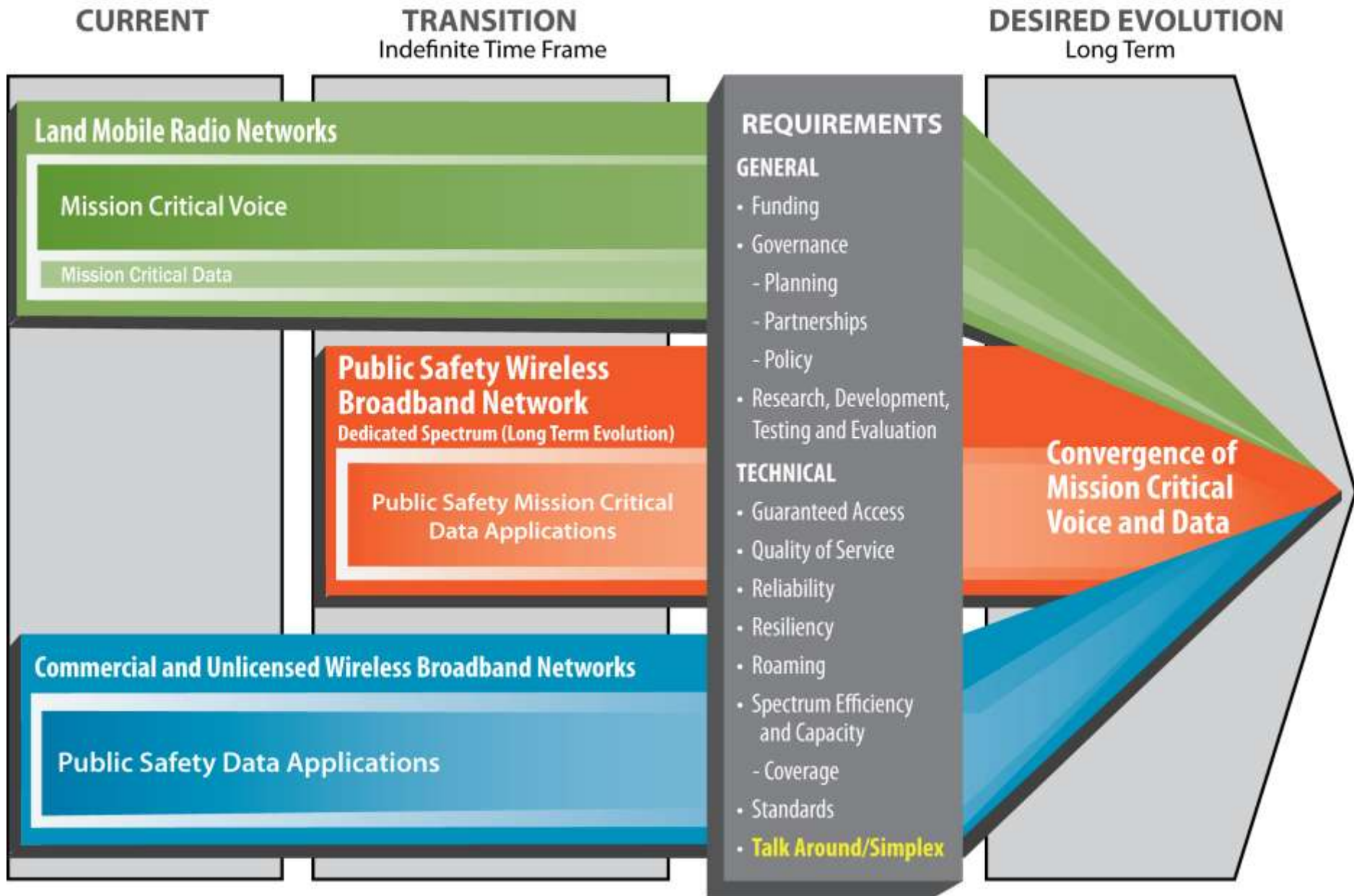
- **National Interoperability Field Operations Guide**
- **Improving Interoperability through Shared Channels**
- **Plain Language Guide**
- **Interoperable Communications for Planned Events**
- **SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum**
- **Writing Guide for Standard Operating Procedures**
- **Establishing Governance to Achieve Statewide Communications Interoperability**
- **Interoperability Business Case: An Introduction to Ongoing Local Funding**
- **Regional Intrastate Governance Guide for Interoperable Communications**
- **Creating a Charter for a Multi-Agency Communications Interoperability Committee**

Many guidance documents are available at  
<http://www.safecomprogram.gov/oecguidancedocuments/Default.aspx>

# Formal Agreement and Standard Operating Procedure Template Suite and Reference Library

- Charter Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Executive Order MOU
- Local to Local (MOU)
- State to Local MOU
- System-to-System Console Patch SOP
- Mobile Gateway Patch SOP
- Shared Channel SOP
- Shared System SOP
- Radio Cache SOP

# Public Safety Communications Evolution



# \$\$ SUSTAINABLE FUNDING \$\$

- Grants
- Spectrum Auctions
- General Funds
- Bonds

# VISION BEYOND BORDERS

- San Francisco Area
- San Diego Area
- Washington DC Area
- Waiver Localities
- Review and help form SWICS

# FCC Charlotte 700 MHz Ruling

- **Public Safety Broadband** (763-768 MHz and 793-798 MHz)
- 5/11/2010 21 conditional waivers for early deployment of broadband
- Charlotte sought clarification on government use or users
- Who can use Charlotte's public safety network?
  - Department of Transportation?
  - Charlotte/Mecklenburg International Airport?
- Broader rulemaking is still pending.
- Charlotte Ruling just addressed government uses
- But, variety of governmental uses are appropriate



# 47 U.S.C. Section 337(f)(1)

## **(f) Definitions:**

For purposes of this section:

### **(1) Public safety services**

The term “public safety services” means services –

(A) the **sole or principal purpose of which is to protect the safety of life, health, or property;**

(B) that are provided –

(i) by State or local government entities; or

(ii) by nongovernmental organizations that are authorized by a governmental entity whose primary mission is the provision of such services; and

(C) That are not made commercially available to the public by the provider.

# FCC Charlotte 700 MHz Ruling

- Service needs to be provided by government or authorized NGO; and
- The sole or principal purpose of such service must be to protect the safety of life, health, or property

# FCC Charlotte 700 MHz Ruling

- Transportation Department use okay if:
  - For safety of motorists and passengers on public transportation
  - The safety of public highways
  - Generally ensuring the safety of travelers
- Airport use okay if:
  - For daily security at airports
  - For routine safety of passengers, crews, personnel and property

# FCC Charlotte 700 MHz Ruling

- Secondary responders to wildfires and flooding
  - Animal control for removal of animals
  - Entities closing streets and directing evacuations and returns
- Network solely or principally devoted to communications that support these emergency response functions to protect the safety of residents, animals, homes and city infrastructure meet the test

# FCC Charlotte 700 MHz Ruling

- Seattle raised city planning and development carried out by building departments
- Also noted that zoning codes protect health of residents and workers
- In light of clear cut public safety character of the work performed by the referenced Seattle departments communications supporting this work would meet sole or principal purpose too.