

Dear PSAP Administrator,

John R. Benson
HSEMD

Andy Buffington
Communications Center

Linda Frederiksen
EMS

Larry Smith
Emergency Management

Kelly Groskurth
Member At-Large

Ellen Hagen
Fire Department (Volunteer)

Rob Rotter
Sheriff's Office

Michael Kasper
Sheriff's Office

Deb Krebill
Fire Department

Tom Lampe
Iowa DPS

Jason Leonard
Municipal Police Department

Carole Lund-Smith
ILEA

David Ness
Municipal Police Department

Denise Pavlik
Communications Center

Marty Smith
Iowa DPH

Jeff Sundholm
Iowa DOT

Jeffery Sweargin
Iowa DNR

Patrick Updike
Iowa DOC

Bob von Wolfradt
Office of the CIO

Legislative Members

Senator Jim Lykam
Senator Randy Feenstra
Representative Bob Kressig
Representative Steven Holt

The landscape of interoperable communications in Iowa is changing for the better. ISICSB is striving towards "Total Interoperability" in Iowa with the completion of the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communication System, ISICS. Achieving a goal of this level needs to start at the PSAP level by having equipment to access ISICS. Once all State PSAPs have the capability to access the ISICS Interoperable talkgroups, at a minimum, a baseline is established with all PSAPs in the State for interoperability. From the PSAP level, interoperability capability is then pushed to the users that communicate with the PSAPs current capability on the console.

The Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) is actively being constructed and is expected to be live by the conclusion of Summer 2018. The ISICS Platform is going to provide at least 95% mobile coverage across Iowa with 99.999% reliability and is vendor agnostic.

Given these vast changes that are occurring statewide the ISICSB operations committee recommends that all public safety answering points (PSAPs) and dispatch centers develop plans to access ISICS for interoperability. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways depending on the extent the PSAP desires to approach it. Some of the methods of access could be, but not limited to are: Control stations, consolettes, existing console programming (if 800 or 700 currently), mobile radio near the console for easy access for operators, are some of the ways to communicate on ISICS Interoperable talkgroups in the Regions in Iowa. To unlock the full potential of the network in the region, multi-key AES256 equipment is also recommended.

The ISICSB is investigating means of providing different levels of connectivity to PSAPs across Iowa in the very near future.

The talk groups will cover specific regions that match up with the Iowa Homeland Security Regions as well as a set that cover all of Iowa. Many of these regional talkgroups (attached map and fleetmap) will be used for communications during planned and unplanned events in which fire, medical and police are on scene in addition to any public service personnel.



Thomas T. Lampe, Chair
Jason Leonard, Vice-chair
Chris Maiers, SWIC



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In addition the expanded capabilities a network like the ISICS Platform presents, the ISICSB is also recommending that subscriber units retain any and all previously programmed federal and non-federal interoperability channels.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact your statewide interoperability coordinator or any member of the ISICSB via the attached contact list.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Lampe'.

Thomas Lampe
Chair, ISICSB

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Krebill'.

Deb Krebill
Chair, Operations Committee

Enclosures