

Local Memorandum of Understanding
Between the
St. Louis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
A voluntary emergency and public service communications organization
sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, Inc.
and
Central County Emergency 911

Introduction

Central County Emergency 911 in St. Louis County, Missouri; here after referred to as Central County Emergency 911 and the St. Louis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) group in St. Louis County, Missouri; here after referred to as St. Louis County ARES, responsible for the St. Louis County area and representing public-service oriented radio amateurs within this area, have agreed to enter into these local agreements which have formed the basis for this memorandum.

Purpose

This agreement between St. Louis County ARES, the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service group and Central County Emergency 911 establishes a framework of cooperation and a close working relationship with volunteer radio amateurs organized under the authority of the ARRL Emergency Coordinator and officials of Central County Emergency 911. It is intended through joint cooperation of the local resources available to both signees, the public will best be served under disaster, emergency or public-service related situations. This document is not meant to be considered legally binding; it is a statement of cooperation between the two parties.

Organization

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service consists of federally licensed radio amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communication duty in the public service when disaster strikes pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Rule 97.1 (a) which states that a "fundamental purpose" of the Amateur Radio Service is: "Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications."

The American Radio Relay League Inc, comprising more than 156,000 radio amateurs in the U.S. sponsors the ARRL Field Organization. More than 8,900 amateurs are registered as members of this national field organization which is divided into 71 geographical sections. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is one segment of the ARRL's commitment to service the public in time of need. Local ARES groups are established components within ARES. "ARES" and "Amateur Radio Emergency Service" are registered service marks of the American Radio Relay League, Incorporated, and are used by permission.

The ARRL Missouri Section leadership within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is exercised by the Section Emergency Coordinator (appointed by the elected ARRL Section Manager) with the Section Emergency Coordinator appointing District Emergency Coordinators and Emergency Coordinators within the section.

The local Emergency Coordinator is the key person within the ARRL Field Organization to provide an ARES response in a given locale.

The St. Louis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is organized in the following manner:

Steve Wooten, KC0QMU: Emergency Coordinator (EC)
Gary Hoffman, KB0H: Assistant Emergency Coordinator (AEC) – Operations
Craig Hirsh, K0CMH: Assistant Emergency Coordinator (AEC) - Planning and Development

Recognition

The Central County Emergency 911 recognizes that the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is the ARRL sponsored emergency/public service oriented communications organization. ARES consists of more than 35,000 licensed U.S. radio amateurs nationwide and can be of valuable assistance in providing critical communications during emergencies and disasters when normal lines of communication are disrupted.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service recognizes **Central County Emergency 911**.

Central County Fire Alarm was created by authority contained in Section 321.243/245 RSMo (Rev 1968) in 1969 under the auspices and control of the CREVE COEUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT. In August of 1972 the Alarm Center was removed from the responsibility of the Creve Coeur District, but maintained facilities in the Creve Coeur Fire Station at 11720 Olive Blvd. The organization was continued in this capacity until 1978 when several significant changes were made.

Central County Fire Alarm was reorganized as Central County Alarm Service in April of 1978 and moved from the Creve Coeur Station to a facility leased from the CITY OF ELLISVILLE at 37 Weis Ave. A by-laws and agreement was prepared and adopted by the Fire Protection Districts of Ballwin, Chesterfield, CREVE COEUR, EUREKA and Manchester and the Municipalities of Frontenac and TOWN AND COUNTRY which contains the responsibilities of each entity to, and within the organization. Central County was then established on a firm foundation and through the cooperation of each member, began to grow and expand.

Immediately after this reorganization, the entities instituted plans to upgrade the dispatching service and equipment. Expansion in the geographical area of service was discussed and plans were initiated for the construction of a new alarm facility. In October 1980 the Pacific Fire Protection District became a member.

The Operating Committee for Central County 911 Is Made Up Of The Chief/Administrator For Each Of The Departments They Dispatch For:

Vince Loyal, **Chairman** - (METRO WEST)
Chip Biele, - **Vice Chairman** - (MONARCH)
Bob Bodley, - **Secretary** (CITY OF TOWN & COUNTRY)
Dave Frazier - (WEST COUNTY)
Kenneth Black, (CREVE COEUR)
Mark Lockhart - (MARYLAND HEIGHTS)
Christine Neal - (MERAMEC)
Tim Wideman - (ST CLAIR)

Method of Cooperation

For the communications resources of the St. Louis County ARES to be coordinated and used to the fullest advantage during disasters and emergencies, and to the extent permitted or required by law and regulation, St. Louis County ARES and Central County Emergency 911 have agreed to the following:

1. The points of contact between St. Louis County ARES and the Central County Emergency 911 office are:
 - St. Louis County ARES
 - Steven J Wooten, Emergency Coordinator
 - Gary Hoffman, Assistant Emergency Coordinator of Operations
 - Craig Hirsh, Assistant Emergency Coordinator of Planning and Development
 - Central County 911
 - Mike Turner, Executive Director
 - Scott Wehlage, Admin IT Support
2. St. Louis County ARES will identify an individual as the key contact within the Central County Emergency 911. This individual will provide the closest possible cooperation and direct operational assistance to St. Louis County ARES in emergency communications planning, and in coordination of amateur radio communications facilities during an emergency.
3. St. Louis County ARES and Central County 911 will engage in an on-going dialog on emergency preparedness with each other. They will urge both staff and volunteers to create and maintain appropriate communications and effective relationships at all levels of both organizations.
4. St. Louis County ARES will cooperate with Central County Emergency 911 in pre-emergency planning, drills, exercises, and training programs at the level designated by Central County Emergency 911.
5. St. Louis County ARES and Central County Emergency 911 will work together to develop operating plans such that communications services, equipment, and facilities of the Amateur Radio Service may be suitably used.
6. Whenever there is a disaster requiring amateur radio communications, Central County Emergency 911 will request the assistance of St. Louis County ARES. This assistance may include:
 - Alerting and mobilizing St. Louis County ARES members in accordance with the St. Louis County ARES Emergency Plan
 - Establishing and maintaining fixed, mobile, and portable station emergency communication capabilities for local amateur radio coverage and point-to-point contact between Central County Emergency 911 and remote locations, as required
 - Maintaining the continuity of communications for the duration of the emergency period or until normal communications channels are substantially restored.

Implementation

This memorandum shall take effect upon its signing by authorized representatives of the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service group and their ARRL Section Leaders and representatives of Central County Emergency 911. This memorandum may be amended by mutual agreement of both parties, and it is understood by both parties that at any time this Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by written notification from either party to the other. Six months prior to the termination date of this MOU, which is 4/15/2010 (a two year term), the parties shall meet to review the progress and success of this MOU and determine whether it shall be extended for an additional five years and in no event shall any single extension of this MOU be for a term exceeding five years.

Miscellaneous

This Statement of Understanding does not create a partnership or a joint venture, and neither party has the authority to bind the other.

Date 4-15-2010 Michael Durr
Title EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date 4-15-2010 Scott Lehman
Title Admin IT Support

Date 4-18-2010 Steve Woods
ARRL Emergency Coordinator

Date 3/23/10 J. J. Jones
ARRL District Emergency Coordinator

Date 3/27/2010 Dennis G. Gier K8BNH
ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator

Date 3/29/2010 Dale Bagley K8KY
ARRL Section Manager (Required for Recognition by ARRL Field Organization)