



**VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER  
TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016**

**Attendees:**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
Alhambra - ALH		
Arcadia - ARC	Deputy Chief Mike Lang	
Burbank - BRK	Battalion Chief Ron Barone	
Angeles Nat'l Forest - ANF		
Bob Hope Airport - BUR		
Glendale - GLN		
LA City - LFD		
LA County - LAC		
Monrovia - MRV	Battalion Chief Chris Fabrizio	
Montebello - MTB		
Monterey Park - MPK		FF Ryan Weddle
Pasadena - PAS		
SGB-SNM-SPS	Battalion Chief Derrick Doehler	Fire Chief Mario Rueda
Sierra Madre - SMD	Captain Brent Bartlett	
Vernon – VER	Captain Craig Peltier	
Verdugo Fire Comm.	Don Wise / Jason Pfau / Alison Finch	Medical Director Dr. Angie Loza-Gomez

**Housekeeping: Congratulations to Dan Amador as Montebello’s new Fire Chief as of December/2015. Congratulations to Monrovia Fire Chief Donovan, moving to El Segundo as Fire Chief!**

**I. New Business:**

- A. Vernon Fire Department (VER):** Vernon Fire Chief Mike Wilson received approval from their City Council to enter into a Dispatch Services Agreement with Verdugo Fire Communications Center on February 2, 2016. The agreement for start of services date will be July 1, 2016. A great deal of work needs to be done ahead of that date to ensure that equipment and related infrastructure meet the requirements of any agency coming into the system, in order to be compatible with system operations.
- B. LARICS & ICI System:** Ray Edey, ICI System Executive Director, spoke about pending changes for the radio system and provided an LARICS update. The former name “ICIS” is now newly named “ICI System”. The UASI Approval Authority met January 22, 2016 in Long Beach and voted to act on the 2014 and 2015 UASI grants. The \$10 million 2014 UASI was divided between LARICS and I-C-I at \$5 million each. The 2015 grant of \$6.7 million was given to Long Beach. The I-C-I award will fund the Santa Monica system cell at \$3 million, the Redundant Master Site at \$1 million, and the Vernon Repeater Site at \$1 million. ICI System will be pursuing the Torrance/South Bay Project of \$5 million in the upcoming 2016 UASI.

There is a new committee, which is more operational in nature, for determining interoperability between law and fire agencies. There’s some disagreement between some fire agencies as to which platform is best suited to fire operations. Ray Edey and Don Wise will be at the next operations committee on Feb. 17 to weigh-in on the issues/concerns. LAAFCA should be the overriding organization that determines which direction interoperability should head for fireground operations between agencies using mutual/auto-aid in the county. An ISSI switch would potentially connect disparate radio systems together and that work is planned between ICI and LA RICS radio systems.

[LA RICS Demonstrates LTE Capabilities, Meets Deadlines During Parade of Roses](#)

- C. **AAR – Monrovia High School, 11/30/15 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm Structure:** 4 accidental E-triggers during incident.
- D. **AAR – Foothill Incident, 01/13/16 – TCRES:** Significant rescue incident. Staging location supplied, CP location was not. Additional freeway activity at same time caused high-volume of calls to be received for the same geographic location for a semi-truck over the side.
- E. **Area C – RTF-4 Draft Policy:** As result of a recent MOBEX involving RTF-4, areas of improvement were identified. A DRAFT RTF-4 response/form-up policy was reviewed with handout to TF members (no attachment to email distribution). The draft document will be reviewed by Area C Fire Chief's group March 21. (attachment)
- F. **El Nino/Weather Incidents:** Weather related "service" calls (DAMAGE; HAZARD; WATER; FLOOD; MUD; WIRES; ARC, etc.) or other type weather-related incidents will be handled by home city resources only. If any weather related incident is Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH), the closest available equipment shall be dispatched. All pending, non-IDLH weather related incidents will be **HELD** in CAD and dispatched as home city equipment becomes available to handle. During periods of heavy weather related activity, any report that meets FLOOD type code criteria will be entered in CAD as a **WATER** incident, and the responding unit may upgrade as necessary dependent upon findings.

**NOTE: WATER and FLOOD** type codes are generally used for **INTERIOR** flooding incidents only. Reports of "flooding" outdoors (HAZARD) is not necessarily a response unless the RP advises an IDLH or imminent threat to property; call takers will provide comprehensive incident details (exact details of emergency; depth of water; location of flooding, etc.), so that the radio dispatcher/FCSS will have a basis for prioritizing incidents in addition to providing valuable information to responders. The Verdugo Cities advised they activate and staff their utility vehicles during rain events only to support incident volume.

- G. **Arcing Wires (ARC) vs. Live Wires Down (WIRES):** Arcing wires, which are electrical wires that spark or arc during a wind/rain storm caused by two or more wires rubbing/touching and also having a lack of insulation, are considered low priority conditions, versus live wires down which require emergency responders to standby until electrical support arrives (i.e. Southern California Edison) to take over. Question to group: Anyone using CERT members to assist in these types of events? Group: No. The Verdugo Cities are considering using a CERT approach, which could free up responders to get to other incidents.

**Action Item:** Do TF members desire to continue to respond on Arcing wires and related incidents, which will be held for home agency resources until each are individually addressed, or direct caller to Power Department if no active fire? Category for ARC Wires = Service. **Response = yes, continue dispatches as noted herein.** Attachments.

- H. **California State Statute 1546.1, Electronic Communications Privacy Act:** The below legislation and following legal brief is now in effect as of January 1, 2016. As a result, all requests or situations whereby a phone number is used through a carrier (whether wireless or landline), now requires notification to the owner of the phone number that certain information was accessed and a warrant for the information must also be obtained – within **3 days**.

Therefore, all exigent request forms may no longer be used by Verdugo Fire. All emergency requests must be performed by the local police department for the city where the incident is believed to be occurring. This procedure will not resolve every situation. The Police Department will have to return the information back to

Verdugo for any additional incident processing, such as a good address or location for responders. The Police Department will then forward the documented request, using their own exigent request forms, to the Watch Commander who will in turn review it for completeness and ensure an emergent need existed which would warrant accessing the information. The Watch Command will in turn forward it to a Detective who will in turn file the paperwork with a Judge for the ensuing warrant/signature. Attachment.

**The police must get a warrant to search your electronic data.** This is the result of [Senate Bill 178](#). It amends the California Penal Code to require a court order before a government agent or entity can search your data in electronic devices or the cloud, including your emails, text messages, and location data. **There is an exception if the government believes in good faith that it needs the data to address a life-threatening emergency, but even then, the government must apply for a warrant within three days.** And there are other rules that require the government to seal, retain, or destroy the data depending on what it finds and to notify you of what it's doing. If the government doesn't follow these rules, an individual can move to exclude the evidence that the government obtained as a result. *See* Pen. Code §§ 1546, 1546.1, 1546.2 & 1546.4.

- I. **Verdugo Essential Contacts:** Reviewed for correctness/changes. (To be sent to TF members for internal agency distribution 2/10/16)
- J. **Tableau Reports:** Review of Tableau Data/Reports website access, and potential reports/charts. Standard reports will be developed for each agency with their own "folder". Access will be granted to key personnel having an identified need to the data/reports. Each agency can then filter to the level of detail that they need. Ad-hoc reports (reports which are not standard within the folder) can be developed out by Verdugo Staff and made standard depending on frequency need (i.e., Monthly, Quarterly, Annually, etc.). Estimate 60-90 days for implementation and training.
- K. **ZIKA Virus:** Dr. Loza-Gomez advised there is currently no human-to-human spread of the disease, although can be sexually transmitted. There's no current need for further dispatch questions at this time for isolation vs. infectious risk for EMS personnel; all EMS personnel should continue to use universal precautions. (attachment)

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## II. Update on Continued Areas/Projects/Issues:

- A. **ISO and Accreditation Surveys** – San Gabriel Fire is finishing up their ISO survey.
- B. **TICP 2016** – The LA TICP has been handed over to LFD Mike Horst for this year's development. There are significant changes coming from the State and Federal level and some from neighboring local government such as Kern County and LA City. Cal-FIRE is adding two additional tactical channels for 2016 and changing some local ranger unit frequencies. The United States Forest Service (USFS) within the entire State of California for federal lands protection has started a multi-year project to adjust frequencies for all Air-to-Ground (A/G) and NIFC Command channels, inclusive of our for local Angeles National Forest (ANF) area.

The Angeles NF will be changing their Admin and Service Net frequencies in March or April of this year. The Cleveland NF will be changing their Admin and Forest Net frequencies in April and November of this year respectively. The San Bernardino NF will be changing their frequencies in 2017. The FIRESCOPE Communications Sub Group should be releasing the MACS 441 Appendix A doing with the required radio frequencies to participate in the mutual aid program. There were several Region 1 agencies that did NOT have the required MACS 441 Appendix A frequencies last year.

- C. **FOOTHILL RADIO PLAN** – Changes will be forthcoming for the plan once again this year due to changes

within Item B. There may be a possibility of a VHF simulcast channel in the plan this year.

**D. ROSS/CICCS Data Entry Project – No Change.**

**E. NG-9-1-1 (RING) Project –** A software revision release and hot-fix has been installed at all sites operating on the RING and appears to have resolved the majority of the issues; to the point that the balance of the three remaining agencies (San Fernando, Beverly Hills, and Alhambra PDs) can consider implementing into the RING as well. If successful, the RING ESInet can be considered as early as March/April period for initial testing/implementation to finalize the network.

**F. Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) – No Update.**

**G. ICIS P25 RADIO –** See Item A, New Business, update by Ray Edey, Executive Director of ICI Radio System. Most member agencies will be completed within a few months; MTB within 18 months.

**H. Operations Committee Updates – No Update.**

**I. State 9-1-1 Working Group, Long Range Planning, and Advisory Board, LARICS, FIRSTNET – No update.**

**J. CAD Projects –**

1. **CAD-to-CAD:** Vendor product demo's have begun.
2. **CAD Replacement:** No update/change. RFP potentially to be released pending further research.
3. **Hydrant Layers:** Need – MPK, MRV, MTB, SGB, SNM, SPS

**K. PulsePoint Project –** Verdugo Staff is waiting on final quote from Northrop-Grumman in order to move forward with project. Estimated time for PulsePoint to implement upon approval of quote and any related administrative work with Northrop-Grumman is 9 weeks. PulsePoint will supply all necessary PIO materials for each agency. Issues/Concerns identified in a recent conference call with Sacramento Regional, one of the first major Fire/EMS agencies to roll-out the product:

- Self-dispatching by Fire/EMS personnel using the app in substitution of actual dispatch by CAD.
- Validated and current Automatic Emergency Defibrillation location information.
- 9-1-1 Education opportunity.

Related: Alhambra Police Department has issued nine AEDs. Six (6) are assigned to patrol; one (1) to Detectives, one (1) is positioned outside of the WC office; and one (1) is in the jail. Also, officers will now be dispatched to all medical calls involving a person down; person not breathing; person unconscious; person experiencing unknown chest pains; and a person having a heart attack. (APD-Policy attachment)

**L. TF Action Items –**

1. **SOG Subcommittee:** Incident Command System – Structure Fire Operations formatted into MS-Word and submitted to sub-committee for potential inclusion to Verdugo Fire Policy & Procedures manual (thank you Alison Finch!).

**M. Verdugo Staffing –** Probationary FCOs Michael Ferrari and Amanda Flanagan continue to progress forward and are now entering Radio Dispatching phase of their training. A request has been made to Human Resources to establish a new recruitment process due to reaching current list limitations for the FCO vacancies. Due to FCSS LaGuard's retirement in December, FCO Kadia Miranda will be promoted

into the vacant position by mid-February. Four vacancies remain for FCO classification inclusive of the TRO position, with Kadia Miranda's promotion, five FCO vacancies will be in effect.

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### III. Roundtable:

**ALH** –

**ARC** – On Christmas night, Cpt. burned at structure fire. He's doing much better and recovering well and hoping to be back soon. Both MRV/ARC are conducting an AAR for Green Sheet publication shortly.

**BRK** – Mobile radio programming for P-25 are completed.

**BUR** –

**GLN** –

**MPK** –

**MRV** – Question to group: How many agencies are carrying RIC bags? Response: All are doing this.

**MTB** –

**PAS** –

**SSS** – Have seven vacancies; three in background. Testing soon using National Testing Network for support of CPAT and NeoGov (SPS) for all three cities.

**SMD** – Question to group: Email from regional training re: MCI kits? Response: Contact Chief Birrell for log-in access to RTG training site for the information.

**VFCC** – Only 5 PC's remaining from the "classic" fire station alerting. They're very old and failing quickly. Once exhausted, any requests for new PC's will be the burden of the agency needing them.

**Next Task Force Meeting:** Tuesday March 8, 2016 at Verdugo Fire Communications at 09:00 hours.

**Next SOG Meeting:** Tuesday March 8, 2016 at Verdugo Fire Communications at 08:00 hours.