

CHARTER of the FCC'S COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY, RELIABILITY, AND INTEROPERABILITY COUNCIL

1. The Council's Official Designation

The official designation of the advisory committee will be the "FCC's Communications Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council" (hereinafter, the "Council").

2. Authority

The Council was established at the direction of the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App.

3. The Council's Objectives and Scope of Its Activity

The purpose of the Council is to provide recommendations to the FCC to ensure optimal security, reliability, and interoperability of communications systems, including public safety, telecommunications, and media communications. The recommendations to be provided by the Council shall include those related to facilitating: (1) the security, reliability, operability and interoperability of public safety communications systems; (2) the security, reliability, operability, and interoperability of wireline, wireless, satellite, cable, and public voice and data networks; and (3) the security and reliability of broadcast and Multichannel Video Programming Distribution facilities.

Further, the Council's recommendations will address: (1) ensuring the availability of communications capacity during natural disasters, terrorist attacks, or other events that result in exceptional strain on the communications infrastructure; and (2) ensuring and facilitating the rapid restoration of communications services in the event of widespread or major disruptions.

4. Description of Duties for Which the Council is Responsible

The duties of the Council will be to gather the data and information necessary to formulate recommendations for assuring optimal communications services within the parameters set forth in Section 3 above, develop those recommendations, and submit them to the FCC.

The Council's duties may include the following:

- 1) Recommend best practices and actions the FCC can take to ensure the security, reliability, operability, and interoperability of today's public safety communications systems, including dispatch systems, radio communications networks and facilities, and devices used by first responders. This task should take into account the availability of new and advanced technologies such as broadband and Internet Protocol (IP) based technologies.
- 2) Recommend best practices and actions the FCC can take to improve the reliability and resiliency of communications infrastructure. These tasks should include a review and update, if appropriate, of best practices previously produced by the Network Reliability and Interoperability Council and the Media Security and Reliability Council. These tasks should take into account new and advanced technologies including broadband and IP-based technologies. They should also take into account, to the extent appropriate, additional functionalities provided by wireless handsets such as Short Message Service (SMS) to create alternative means of communication to emergency response channels.

- 3) Evaluate ways to strengthen the collaboration between communications service providers and public safety entities during emergencies and make recommendations for how they can be improved.
- 4) Develop and recommend best practices and actions the FCC can take that promote reliable 9-1-1 and enhanced 9-1-1 service, including procedures for:
 - a) Defining geographic coverage areas for public safety answering points;
 - b) Defining network diversity requirements for delivery of IP-enabled 9-1-1 and enhanced 9-1-1 calls;
 - c) Call-handling in the event of call overflow or network outages;
 - d) Public safety answering point certification and testing requirements;
 - e) Validation procedures for inputting and updating location information in relevant databases; and
 - f) The format for delivering address information to public safety answering points.
- 5) Analyze and recommend technical options to enable accurate and reliable dynamic E9-1-1 location identification for interconnected VoIP services.
- 6) Recommend ways, including best practices, to improve Emergency Alert System (EAS) operations and testing and to ensure that all Americans, including those living in rural areas, the elderly, people with disabilities, and people who do not speak English, have access to timely EAS alerts and other emergency information.
- 7) Recommend methods to measure reliably and accurately the extent to which key best practices are implemented both now and in the future. In carrying out this task, the Council shall identify those “key best practices” for each communications industry segment (e.g. media, wireline, and wireless) that are most critical for network and media security, reliability, operability, and interoperability.
- 8) The Council will also make recommendations with respect to such additional topics as the FCC may specify. These topics may include issues arising from the convergence of technologies and how the FCC can best fulfill its responsibilities, particularly with respect to safety of life and property (including law enforcement) and national defense under the Communications Act.

5. Official to Whom the Council Reports

The Council shall report to the Chairman of the FCC. The Chairman of the FCC shall appoint the Chair of the Council.

6. Agency Responsible for Providing Necessary Support

The FCC will provide the necessary support for the Council, including the meeting facilities for the Council.

7. Estimated Total Operating Costs in Dollars and Staff Years

An estimated two FCC staff years will be expended in support of the Council. The Council’s estimated total operating cost to the FCC is approximately \$150,000 per year.

8. Designated Federal Officer

A full-time or permanent part-time employee, appointed by the FCC Chairman, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the advisory committee's and subcommittees' meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the FCC Chairman.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Council Meetings

The Council will meet at least twice a year.

10. Duration

The Council will have two (2) years from the date its Charter is filed to carry out the purposes for which it was created.

11. Council's Termination Date

The Council will terminate two (2) years from the date that the Council's charter is filed, unless renewed before that date for an additional term.

12. Membership and Designation

Members of the Council shall be appointed by the Chairman of the FCC. Members will be selected from among public safety agencies, consumer or community organizations or other non-profit entities, and the private sector to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to effectively address the issues to be considered. Members will be appointed either as Representatives, Regular Government Employees (RGEs) or as Special Government Employees (SGEs), as necessary.

13. Subcommittees

The Council is authorized to facilitate its work through informal subcommittees that may meet more frequently. Activities and recommendations of the informal subcommittees must be reported to the Council as a whole, and only as modified or ratified by the Council as a whole may such recommendations be reported to the Chairman of the FCC.

14. Recordkeeping

Records of the proceedings will be kept, as required by applicable laws and regulations. All records of the committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

15. Charter Filing Date

March 19, 2009