

Mutual Aid Box Alarm System – Illinois
Communications – USE OF IREACH FOR TOLLWAY RESPONSES

Index #C-01-12

Adopted – 07/2007

Revised:

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Subject: Use of IREACH for Tollway Responses
Functional Area: Communications
Category: Guideline

Approved By: MABAS Executive Board

Purpose:

To coordinate emergency response communications for incidents that occur on the Illinois State Toll Highway (Tollway) Authority.

Responsibility:

This guideline applies to all MABAS member agencies that may respond to incidents on the Illinois Tollway system.

This guideline is intended to comply with the operational concepts provided under and in support of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the Unified Command System (UCS) and Incident Command System (ICS) principles.

Accountability:

Enforcement of this specific policy rests initially with the Co-Chairs of the MABAS Telecommunications, Communications, and Dispatch Centers committee, then the MABAS CEO, followed by the MABAS President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President.

Reporting Requirement:

There is no routine reporting requirement for this policy.

1. Background

The Illinois fire service, in cooperation with the Illinois State Police and the Tollway Authority, desire to improve communications interoperability, command and control or emergency scenes on the Tollway System. Utilizing the inter-disciplinary, inter-jurisdictional coordination radio channel commonly known as IREACH (Illinois Radio Emergency Assistance Channel), responders from various disciplines can readily communicate unit-to-unit to locate incidents, coordinate resources, and improve public safety on the Tollway system.

2. Guideline

1. Member agencies are encouraged to review and/or acquire radio authorization from the Federal Communications Commission for the IREACH frequency (155.055 MHz)
2. Affected member agencies are encouraged to participate in incident management and coordination training as presented by the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, Illinois State Police and the Tollway Authority.
3. Member agencies are encouraged to utilize IREACH to locate incidents on the Tollway System by communicating with Tollway staff and units of the Illinois State Police, coordinate necessary resources suited to specific incidents, and coordinate large-scale incidents requiring multiple response disciplines.

3. Conclusion

The use of the IREACH frequency by fire, EMS, Illinois State Police, and response staff of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority will greatly enhance the management of emergencies on the Tollway system in Illinois.