

Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) Standards, Protocols, Procedures

Document Section 3	Interoperability Standards	Status: Complete
State Standard Number	3.44.0	
Standard Title	Statewide Pursuit Communications	
Date Established	3/29/2012	SRB Approval: 12/17/2015
Replaces Document Dated	1/3/2013	
Date Revised	4/30/2014	

1. Purpose or Objective

The purpose of this standard is to establish the guidelines and procedures for vehicle pursuit communications.

2. Technical Background

▪ Capabilities

The Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB) has established standards for use of the statewide incident response talkgroups with State Standards 3.16.0 and 3.19.0.

▪ Constraints

Experience has shown that all agencies have used many different processes in the past. This standard strives for statewide consistency among all law enforcement agencies.

3. Operational Context

Not immediately pertinent – See State Standard 3.19.0.

4. Recommended Protocol

All LTAC talkgroups are required for law enforcement PSAPs with fully integrated consoles, and a minimum of two LTACs are required for law enforcement PSAPs using control stations to integrate with ARMER.

As of June 30, 2017, all law enforcement PSAPs using control stations to integrate with ARMER will be required to have LTAC 1-4 available on their dispatch consoles.

5. Recommended Procedure:

- Whenever a vehicle pursuit is initiated, the pursuing agency's current operating channel will be patched to the first available LTAC 1-4, as determined by pursuing agency's dispatcher via the StatusBoard.
- The pursuing agency's dispatcher will reserve the resource on StatusBoard.
- The pursuing agency's dispatcher will perform the multi-select function so all audio is heard on the patched talkgroups.
- After the patch is in place, the pursuing agency's dispatcher will announce the patch and the reason for the patch.
- Patching of resources (talkgroups and conventional) will be accomplished by the pursuing agency's dispatcher, if possible. (Note: the pursuing agency's dispatcher will coordinate the pursuit until another dispatch center accepts the responsibility for the pursuit and the patch – adding or deleting of resources – during the event.)

WARNING: When dispatch duties are being passed to another PSAP, certain system configurations may prevent responders from the initiating agency from being able to hear the new PSAP and vice versa.

PATCHING: Dispatchers need to take special note of a technical constraint that currently exists that may limit parts of the patched audio from reaching their radio console. To ensure that you can hear both sides of the radio conversation, you need to multi-select all the talkgroups involved. This will also ensure that other PSAPs who are monitoring will be able to hear both sides of the patched audio. Field users are not affected by this constraint and will hear all audio involved.

(Consult your Radio System Administrator for more in-depth detail on "Home Zone Mapping" and the effects it has on patching and system resources.)

- All units involved in the pursuit should select the designated LTAC or VLAW channel on their radios as soon as it is safe to do so. Patched, local resources will not work beyond the normal coverage of that resource.
- When advised by the law enforcement officer in charge of the pursuit, the pursuing agency's dispatcher will announce the patch removal and update the StatusBoard.
- Whenever a pursuit involves any VHF user(s), or it is anticipated that any VHF user(s) will become involved, VLAW31 will be included in the initial patch, if available.
- It is critical that dispatchers become familiar with the VLAW31 coverage footprint in their local area, as well as their region. If it becomes apparent that the VHF user(s) involved may drive out of the VLAW31 coverage of their local dispatch center, the dispatcher should contact the appropriate State Patrol Regional Dispatch Center and request they take over the pursuit communications.

6. Management

The DPS Division of Emergency Communication Networks (DECN) will ensure that an online training module is created for this State Standard. In addition, the SECB shall ensure that each Regional Emergency Communications Board (ECB) or Emergency Services Board (ESB) has a process in place to ensure that each first-line dispatcher completes the training and adheres to the recommended procedure in this standard.