

ILLINOIS WIRELESS 9-1-1 CHECK LIST

PROVIDED BY INENA

GENERAL INFORMATION:

This checklist is compiled from information provided by our review of applicable legislation and rules now in effect. This information may and probably will change as the process moves forward. We will attempt to keep this list current.

The information provided should be taken and used as suggestions for moving forward in the Phase I wireless process in our State. It is merely one piece of information that should be considered by each 9-1-1 system or PSAP manager as he or she moves forward.

STEP 1 (Initial Decision)

Determine if your 9-1-1 system wants to accept Phase 1 wireless 9-1-1 calls. In making this decision consider at least the following:

- For this step you should not be attempting to make a final decision. You should be looking at the operational side of the house such as equipment, staffing, the idiosyncrasies of wireless calls.

This initial decision is more politically based than it is on facts and figures.

If you are fairly sure that your system or PSAP will opt to take the calls then proceed to the next step.

STEP 2 (Notifications)

- Determine who the wireless providers in your coverage area are and:

Send the wireless carriers letters (certified) indicating that you want to begin negotiations to accept wireless Phase I 9-1-1 calls. Note that no where is the term contract used.

Copy these letters to your 9-1-1 provider (LEC) and any of the wireless database providers, if you have determined who they are, in your coverage area.

This process is the only one that we are aware of at this time which will allow you to determine the costs estimates, workload estimates, and technology choices available to you on an individual basis.

No national seminars or other information is available to deal with the specifics of your particular PSAP or system.

Think of it this way, you might be buying a Ford but your options may be different than those of your neighbor for many reasons such as:

CPE Capabilities – Serving Telco – Mapping Capabilities – Method of Delivery Choices (CAS or NCAS).

STEP 3 (Proprietary Releases & Contracts)

- After you sign and return proprietary release forms you can expect to receive paper maps on which you are expected to validate the coverage of each PSAP in your system. If you have a single PSAP that will receive the wireless calls and it covers an entire County the process is much easier.

Subsequent to this activity you will need to meet with each carrier and determine which cell site face or cell site is routed to which PSAP or to an adjoining 9-1-1 system. This will be done during one on one meetings and you should consider having representatives from the PSAPs/Systems immediately surrounding yours present. This will assist in determining what system will accept calls from what sites when they are on borderlines.

- Legal Representation should be obtained and if possible brought up to speed with reference to the need for review of non-disclosure agreements and contracts. Some wireless 9-1-1 background and Illinois wireless legislation background would be very helpful.

STEP 4 (Initial 9-1-1 Service Provider (LEC) Contacts)

- Contact the technical representative from your 9-1-1 service provider and determine that companies status regarding their ability to provide wireless 9-1-1 services and the technology that they desire to employ.

You should be able to determine from this conversation the impact, if any, on your CPE, trunking configuration, information included in the ALI display and various options, which might be available to you.

Note: If your 9-1-1 provider will meet with you before the letters are sent requesting Phase I service then you might include this meeting as part of the first step.

Remember that there is nothing in any legislation that requires you to accept the service in the manner they wish to provide it. You do have choices and there are provisions for settling disputes, which we hope are not needed.

It would appear at this time that if you are able to use the solution selected by your LEC without unreasonable costs or changes to your operations it might be the most expeditious course of action to follow.

STEP 5 (The Planning Meeting)

- Schedule a get to know one another meeting with all of the participants that will be included in your implementation process. Have them all come to one meeting and indicate to them that you will not discuss proprietary issues.

Include at least all of the wireless carriers, your 9-1-1-service provider, your CPE vendor or technician, your mapping vendor or technician, and 9-1-1 wireless database providers.

Attempt to resolve the following issues at this meeting:

1. The method of 9-1-1 call delivery to be employed in your system agreed to by all participants. It will probably be CAS, NCAS, or a Hybrid CAS solution.
2. Determine if your system will establish a separate set of wireless 9-1-1 trunks from the router to your PSAP(s). Note the cost for these would probably be to the PSAP.

Separate wireless trunk groups are not necessary but they do provide a guard against the blocking of wireline 9-1-1 calls in the event of a major incident in public view. This does not necessarily mean a total duplication of the wireline trunking system. You need to discuss this thoroughly with your 9-1-1-service provider.

3. Talk about the use of Wireless Data Controller the rough equivalent of an ALI database called an SCP for wireless calls. You need to understand its impact and ask about things like diversity.
4. Talk about PANI, ESRDs, and ESRKs so that you understand what they are. You will be involved in making a choice concerning which of these methods of identifying cell sites and or cell faces will be employed in your system. Ask about the effects each one will have on your ALI information, the ability to

identify your response agencies, the ability to tie them to CO transfers, and the flexibility for PSAP reassignment.

5. Determine if there are any potential problems pertaining to your CPE that might result based on any of the issues previously described above.
6. Determine how your mapping, if you have any, might interface with the wireless calls and might be able to be used to identify the responders assigned to the area covered by the cell face. It might also be used to provide transfers to other 9-1-1 PSAPs within your system. If it can do some of these things it will give you more flexibility and more choices. If you don't have computerized mapping it is not mandatory.
7. Attempt to determine where the responsibility rests for database activity costs. Without infringing on proprietary issues you might determine that the wireless companies are charged by their database vendor and would receive cost recovery for them through the Illinois legislation. Your goal is to determine in general what anyone believes will be a cost to your 9-1-1 system and/or PSAP for providing the service. Details should be obtained in private meetings.
8. Provide a mechanism for your wireless providers to interface with your 9-1-1 service provider so that they each understand the others role. They will need to interface regarding the ordering of trunks and on other matters. Your role is to help establish this working relationship. Do not assume that the carriers understand how wireless 9-1-1 works and or how it relates to the current 9-1-1 servicesystem. Some will and some will not.
9. Identify the contact for your system or PSAP so that everyone knows who to keep in the loop.
10. Arrange for individual meetings to discuss anticipated workload, cell routing, subscriber base in your coverage area and any other proprietary issues.
11. Discuss Illinois legislation. Remind them that it will not take effect until July 1, 2000 and that you are not sure when funds will be available to them or you for costs associated with providing the service. Make them aware that the ICC and CMS have not as yet established any rules and that the actual amount of surcharge has not yet been determined.
12. Set time lines to move forward if you feel comfortable based on the information you have received. If you need to obtain more information before a final decision is made then communicate that information.

Once this meeting has ended and a decision has been made then you will need to stay active with all the parties involved as you proceed through the implementation process.

Once again we will attempt to keep this list updated as we move forward. Please understand that it is specific to Illinois in some areas.