

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

Document Section:	<b>2</b>	<b>Operations and Technical Committee Recommendation</b> Date: 4/19/05
Sub-Section:	<b>2.5 Talkgroup &amp; Radio User Priorities</b>	
Procedure Title:		
Date Established:	<b>1/19/01</b>	<b>Statewide Radio Board Approval</b>  Date: 9/1/05
Replaces Document Dated:		
Date Revised:	<b>4-12-05</b>	

### **1. Purpose or Objective**

The purpose of establishing varying priority levels for talkgroups is to assure the most critical talkgroups on the system are granted a channel as quickly as possible when and where the system is experiencing busy conditions.

### **2. Technical Background:**

- **Capabilities**

The system priorities can be managed at the user level and at the talkgroup level.

- **Constraints**

All **User** Priorities will be set to 10, as radio users change talkgroups, their effective priority will be set by the **talkgroup** that they are on.

### **3. Operational Context:**

Priority levels in the system will be managed at the talkgroup level. The goal is to distribute priorities across the systems talkgroups in a way that maximizes the ability for critical groups to communicate and minimizes the number of talkgroups with high priority. All User Priorities will be set to the lowest priority level, 10. As radio users change talkgroups, their effective priority will be set by the talkgroup that they are on.

### **4. Recommended Protocol/ Standard:**

The talkgroup owner, or the applicable local System Administrator, shall assign talkgroup priority levels not exceeding the level defined by the criteria below. Talkgroup priorities that are assigned to level five or above are subject to the review and audit provisions that are specified in the Management Section 1.7 of these system standards.

## **Priority 1**

**[Definition: EMERGENCY]:** Only Emergency Alert calls, i.e. emergency button pressed, will be given the Priority 1 status.

## **Priority 2**

**[Definition: EXTRAORDINARY/TEMPORARY]:** Will be used for temporary re-prioritization (via system manager terminal) of a lower priority talkgroup for critical operations, i.e. presidential motorcade, major incident command, etc. In addition Priority 2 will be assigned to dedicated “EMERGENCY ALARM” talkgroups for agencies such as Transit that do not use the Emergency Alert (emergency button) function.

## **Priority 3**

**[Definition: Shared Talkgroups normally dealing with MUTUAL AID]:** i.e., announcement groups (multi-groups) and network-wide and local system-wide mutual aid interoperability talkgroups.

## **Priority 4**

**[Definition: CONSOLE TACTICAL UPGRADE FOR Priority 5]:**

## **Priority 5**

**[Definition: Owned Talkgroups dealing with the Safety and Protection of Life and Property]:** Will be used for talkgroups that have an impact on the delivery of services that involve the safety and the protection of life and property. Priority 5 talkgroups may also include those talkgroups used by personnel involved in high risk and mission critical field operations.

## **Priority 6 [TEMPORARY CONSOLE TACTICAL UPGRADE FOR NON-MISSION CRITICAL]:**

## **Priority 7**

**[NON-MISSION CRITICAL]:** Will be for all other “secondary”, “administrative”, “non-essential” or “non-mission critical” talkgroups used by subscriber agencies, both public safety and general government. (See *Appendix 2 -Definitions and Acronyms* for explanation of “Mission Critical” and related terms.)

## **Priority 8 – 9**

**[UNASSIGNED]:**

## **Priority 10**

### **[PRIVATE & INTERCONNECT CALLS]:**

Will be used for Telephone Interconnect Calls, Private Calls as defined by direct point-to-point radio-to-radio communications that are not carried out within a talkgroup. This priority will also be used for talkgroups that are established for system testing.

### **5. Recommended Procedure:**

N/A

### **6. Management**

The Statewide System Manager is responsible for supervision and management of this procedure. See *Management Section 1* of this Manual.