

# CLEARINGHOUSE

"The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau's Clearinghouse provides a critically important resource for the public safety community and our citizens.

It enables us to share our communications expertise with public safety providers and organizations throughout the country, and it provides a virtual marketplace of ideas for public safety organizations to use to learn from one another about the best communications solutions for public safety needs.

I encourage all of our federal, state, local, and tribal partners both to use this valuable resource and to share their insights and suggestions so that we can continue to expand and enhance the assistance it provides."

Michael J. Copps  
Acting Chairman,  
Federal  
Communications  
Commission

## We Welcome Your Input

⇒ PSHSB welcomes document submissions and ideas for the Clearinghouse, which can be submitted via the website.

### Search the Clearinghouse:

Enter Keyword Here

Enter your search term in the text field and click the arrow button.



If you have a document to be added to the Clearinghouse, please email it to us.

The Clearinghouse  
can be viewed at:  
[www.fcc.gov/pshs/clearinghouse](http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/clearinghouse)

For more information on PSHSB,  
please visit [www.fcc.gov/pshs](http://www.fcc.gov/pshs)



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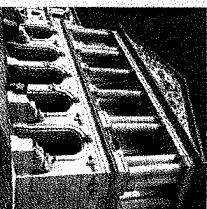
First Responders



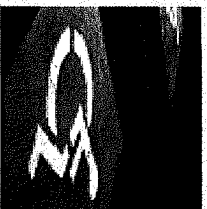
Health Care



PSAPs



State, Local, Tribal  
Government



Persons with  
Disabilities

# What is the Clearinghouse?

The Clearinghouse is a searchable online collection of documents and information for the public safety community that:

- Includes original content created by the staff of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB).
- Was created in August 2007 and viewed by over 100,000 users.
- Contains over 230 documents organized by Target Group:
  - First Responders
  - Health care
  - Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs)
  - Persons with Disabilities
  - State, Local and Tribal Governments
- Includes a Core Concepts page focused on public safety communications systems. Topics include operability, interoperability, and redundancy.

[www.fcc.gov/pshs/clearinghouse](http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/clearinghouse)

## Clearinghouse Target

### Group Document Types:

#### BEST PRACTICES

- Examples of most efficient and effective methods, based on repeatable procedures.

#### CASE STUDIES/LESSONS

#### LEARNED

- Validated examples of functional, strategic or tactical disciplines.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

#### PLANS

- Provide guidelines for responding to crisis situations.

#### EMERGENCY PLANS

- Provide frameworks for performing emergency functions during a disaster or crisis event.

#### INTEROPERABILITY PLANS

- Implementation plans for the continuation of communications interoperability among responders at the local, state, tribal and federal levels.

## FEDERAL RESOURCES AND GRANT INFORMATION

- Information about federal government sites related to public safety and homeland security.

### Tech Topics

- PSHSB engineering staff develop technical articles to provide analysis and applications of the principles of telecommunications in public safety or emergency situations.
  - Topics include Internet Protocol Based Interoperability, Software Defined Radio, and Outage System Reporting.

[www.fcc.gov/pshs/techttopics](http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/techttopics)

### PSHSB Studies

- PSHSB Staff perform technical studies of public safety and commercial communications systems during times of disaster to identify and share best practices for emergency preparedness and response.
  - PSHSB recently analyzed the impact of the Minneapolis Bridge Disaster on local emergency communications systems and published a report of their findings.

[www.fcc.gov/pshs/minneapolisbridge.html](http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/minneapolisbridge.html)