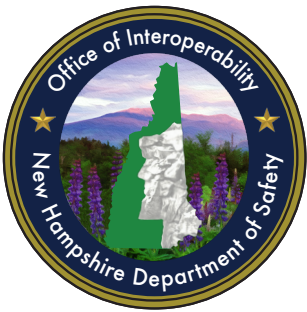


# Office of Interoperability Newsletter



## Message from John T. Stevens, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) & Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for FirstNet in NH



Today we're changing the calendar from Spring to Summer, although with Spring coming so late, it's hard to believe that as of the 21st of June, the days will already be getting shorter. Changes in legislation, changes in personnel, a new SCIP-update and the pending development of a TIC-Fog this fall, the Office of Interoperability remains engaged in support of statewide public safety.

First, on behalf of the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC), I would like to take this opportunity to wish retiring Chief Phil

Tirrell, Deputy Chairman of the SIEC and his family a happy and healthy retirement and thank him for the many years and trips to Concord in support of the SIEC and public safety communications throughout New Hampshire. In the same token, we wish to congratulate Chief Michael Sitar, Tilton/Northfield Fire Department of being elected the next Deputy Chairman of the SIEC. The SIEC, through a Charter revision over this past winter which has been approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Sununu will more appropriately define the SIEC mission through its increased membership. The SIEC has since its inception, led the nation in progressive, innovative, and instrumental decisions which have shaped and provided opportunities in how individual public safety agencies from throughout the state can remain interoperable based on clear and decisive protocols inspired through the SIEC's working groups.

Through this commitment to address and support public safety communications, the membership remains highly engaged in decisions affecting the FirstNet/ AT&T initiative throughout New Hampshire. Since the decision to Opt-in, New Hampshire and FirstNet/ AT&T have conducted nearly fifty (50) outreach presentations to date in 2018 throughout the state, with many more sessions being scheduled. This office would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge the significant efforts being made by AT&T, along with FirstNet to develop and construct the infrastructure to support this broadband technology and their dedicated efforts presenting before all these attendees. The collaborative efforts being made by the SIEC, FirstNet, and AT&T will serve the public safety community well as New Hampshire readies itself for next generation communications technology. That being said, we also wish to congratulate Mike Varney for his recent promotion within FirstNet to an area supervisor which not only entails New England, but the Mid-Atlantic States as well. Congrats Mike!! Keeping in the theme of FirstNet, the SIEC wishes to also congratulate the Town of Derry, New Hampshire as the first public safety community to transition over to FirstNet/ AT&T services.

Significant to FirstNet/ AT&T service are the applications being designed for public safety that can be found in the FirstNet App. Store. The SIEC recognizing the plethora of apps being designed has seen

fit to develop an Apps. Sub-committee, chaired by Art Durette to research the applications now and in the future that will be developed for public safety. The SIEC certainly will not mandate any usage of any particular app, but rather make recommendations to public safety as to the effectiveness of its components.

As mentioned earlier in this Newsletter the SIEC is being enhanced by an increased membership supported by the approval of the Legislature and Governor Sununu. This has been no small lift, designed by the SIEC's Executive Committee and supported by the Commissioner of Safety. The bases and significance of this legislation is representative of the vital work being performed by the SIEC. Interoperable communications through Land Mobile Radio (LMR), or Long Term Evolution (LTE) is essential for first responder safety and security, which is directly attributed to the level of service provided to the citizenry. Appointments made by the Commissioner of Safety to the SIEC are done so with an unequivocal sense of service and commitment to providing to the State of New Hampshire an undeniable obligation to public safety. Attached to this Newsletter you will find a letter from the Commissioner of Safety addressed to the membership explaining the meaning of your individual commitment to the SIEC and the significance of this responsibility. Your attendance at Committee meetings are critically important as the Committee continues the work of interoperable communications.

Please have a safe and enjoyable summer and we'll see you at the next scheduled SIEC Meeting on September 21, 2018 at 9:00 AM at the NH Fire Academy.

## **Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) Membership**

### **Chairperson**

**Vice Chairperson (elected from membership)**

**Secretary (elected from membership)**

**Statewide Interoperability Coordinator**

**Director of Homeland Security/Emergency Management**

**Representative of NH Assoc. of Police Chiefs - City**

**Representative of NH Assoc. of Police Chiefs - Town**

**Representative of NH Assoc. of Fire Chiefs - City**

**Representative of NH Assoc. of Fire Chiefs - Town**

**Representative of Charitable Organization – Red Cross**

**House of Representatives**

**Senate**

**Member of Professional Fire Fighters of NH**

**Representative of the NH Sheriff's Assoc.**

**State Fire Marshal**

**Member of NH Police Association**

**Representative of NH Hospital Assoc.**

**Local Emergency Medical Services Provider**

**Local Public Health Official**

**Local Public Works Official**

**Representative of NH Emergency Dispatchers Assoc.**

**Representative of a Major Public Safety Dispatch Center**

**Department of Administrative Services**

**Executive Director of Fish and Game**

**Department of Transportation**

**Department of Business & Economic Affairs**

**Department of Natural & Cultural Resources**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Director of Emergency Services and Communications**

**UNH Chief of Police**

**The Adjutant General or Designee**

**Department of Safety – Grants Management**

**New Hampshire State Police**

**Assistant Commissioner of Safety**

**Department of Justice – Law Enforcement Branch**

**NH Fire Mutual Aid Districts**

**Department of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency**

**Medical Services**

**Department of Safety – Emergency Services Radio Technician**

**Department of Information Technology**

**Department of Corrections**

**Broadband Technology Representative in the Private Sector (1)**

**Broadband Technology Representative in the Private Sector (1)**

**UNH Broadband Technology Representative (1)**

**UNH Broadband Technology Representative (1)**

# State of New Hampshire

JOHN J. BARTHELMES  
COMMISSIONER OF SAFETY



ROBERT L. QUINN  
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June 20, 2018

### Commissioner's Message to the SIEC Membership

The composition of the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) has most recently gone through a membership increase. Through House Bill 1545, introduced by Representative Daniel Eaton, hearings have taken place both in the House and in the Senate that were approved and forwarded to Governor Sununu for signature and passed into law. New Hampshire is among just a few states that have actual legislation that lawfully comprises the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC). As such, the SIEC is instrumentally important as it addresses statewide interoperability communications and its effects on public safety throughout New Hampshire.

Prior to this new legislation, members of the SIEC recognizing some deficiencies, understood that as a statewide body representing State, County, and local, Police, Fire, and EMS, along with non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and the NH National Guard, there were disciplines and organizations that truly needed a voice on this committee that previously were not represented. The SIEC's Leadership Group took appropriate actionable opportunity to promote this increase and is pleased to announce this addition to its membership.

As Commissioner, I wish to acknowledge and applaud the work that has been accomplished by the SIEC. Through the SIEC and its three working groups, New Hampshire remains better positioned to address the statewide needs of interoperable communications. Both in LMR and now with the formidable task of collaborating with FirstNet/AT&T in LTE, wireless broadband development, New Hampshire has benefitted immensely by the commitment and dedication of the SIEC to remain engaged in this process. It is to that end however, that I encourage and impress upon you the importance of staying engaged and committing the time and effort in overseeing this endeavor. The only way for New Hampshire to remain at the forefront in this effort is to lead by example and to not accept what is only offered, but strive for what we recognize as essential to our public safety obligation. Your commitment to the SIEC is appreciated and I wish to thank you personally for all that you have accomplished and for what I know you will achieve in the future.

Sincerely,

  
Commissioner John J. Barthelmes

Have a news story you'd like us to feature? Drop us a line.  
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