SUPPORT SERVICES

SELECTION AND USE OF TALK GROUPS

Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure for the systematic use of the radio talk groups.

Policy Statement
It is the policy of the North Little Rock Police Department to utilize the radio system in an efficient and effective manner through the assignment of talk groups for the exclusive use of different divisions and users.

Summary of Changes
Updates policy for transition to AWIN radio system and updates talk group names/identifiers, and updates actual talk groups available.

Procedures
1.   Selection and Use of Trunked Talk Groups
1.1 The radio system has a number of talk groups for the exclusive use of the department. In addition, several groups are shared with other users of the system. The following are the talk groups and the permitted users for each:
1.1.1   **PD DISP1**: NOT ENCRYPTED and streamed to internet with 30 minute delay. All department radios have this talk group. This group is the primary dispatch talk group. The main use is for the dispatch of patrol units, traffic stops, and self-initiated calls for all units and for other priority traffic. Conversations between units should be kept to a minimum. If there is a need to conduct a lengthy conversation between units that is not necessary for general knowledge, move to PD DISP3 or PD DISP4. It is recommended that users who scan, program this talk group as a level one priority.
1.1.2   **PD DISP2**: ENCRYPTED. All department radios have this talk group. This group is a secondary group for PD DISP1. The main use is to run warrant inquiries and other information request. Dispatch operations have priority when PD DISP1 is directed.
1.1.3   **PD DISP3**: ENCRYPTED. All department radios have this group. This group is designated as a primary dispatch group in the event the department splits dispatch operations to two areas. At present, the group may be used for general use on a non-interference basis. Communications does not routinely monitor this group.
1.1.4   **PD DISP4**: ENCRYPTED. All department radios have this group. This group is designated as a secondary dispatch group to PD DISP3 in the event dispatch operations are later split. At present, the group may be used for general use on a non-interference basis. Communications does not routinely monitor this group.
1.1.5   **PD TAC1 and PD TAC 2**: ENCRYPTED. All department radios have these groups. This group is a primary tactical operations group. Tactical operations, such as mass warrant service, riots, SWAT operations, parades, etc., have priority. The group is open for general use when no tactical operations are in progress. Communications does not routinely monitor this group.
1.1.6   **PD OPS**: ENCRYPTED. All department radios have this talk group. The primary purpose is special events of a sensitive nature. The group is open for general use when no tactical operations are in progress. Communications does not routinely monitor this group.
1.1.7   **COMMON**: NOT ENCRYPTED. This group is shared with all others with access to city radios. The primary use is communication between departments. In addition, MEMS and MED Flight have access to this group. Emergency traffic has priority.
1.1.8   **SP EVENT**: NOT ENCRYPTED. All city radios have this group. The primary use is for coordinating between city departments during emergencies and special events requiring inter-department communication.
1.1.9   **PD SUPER**: ENCRYPTED. Only supervisor portables have this group. Communications does not have access to this group.
1.1.10   **PD SRO**: ENCRYPTED. All department radios have this group. The primary use is for SROs to communicate with each other and other officers. Communications does not routinely monitor this group.
1.1.11   **PD ASP**: NOT ENCRYPTED. All department radios have this   group. In addition other police agencies, including the State Police, in Pulaski County have access to this group. The group is used for communications between police agencies. ProNet activities have priority. This group is not to be used for routine communications between North Little Rock PD units.

1.1.12 **AGC 1, AGC 2, AGC 3**: NOT ENCRYPTED. All department radios have these groups. All agencies on the system have access to AGC 1. Only police agencies have access to AGC 2 and AGC 3. In addition, other police agencies in Pulaski County have access to these groups, including the State Police. These groups are used for communications between user agencies. These groups are not to be used for routine communications between North Little Rock PD units.

1.1.13 **PD INV 1**: ENCRYPTED. Only radios used by the Investigations Division have this group. The primary use is for communications between investigators. Communications does not have access to this group.

1.1.14 **PD INV 2:** ENCRYPTED. Investigations and narcotics investigators have this group. The primary use is for communications between investigations and narcotics. A secondary use is communication between Investigations Division users. Narcotics' unit users should not use this group for routine communications without coordinating with investigations. Communications does not have access to this group.

1.1.15 **A-LAW COM**: NOT ENCRYPTED. This is the AWIN law enforcement mutual aid talk group. All law enforcement agencies in AWIN have access. Primary purpose is interoperability between law enforcement agencies. This group is not to be used for routine communications between North Little Rock PD units.

1.1.16 **PD INTEL**: ENCRYPTED. Only radios used by the Investigations Division have this group. The primary use is for communications between investigators. Communications does not have access to this group.

1.1.17 **PD TRAIN**: ENCRYPTED. All department radios have this group. The primary use is for communications between units during training exercises. A secondary use is for communication between the training unit users. The group may be used as an additional tactical group during emergencies. Emergencies have priority over other uses. Communications does not have access to this group.

1.1.18 **PD SWAT**: ENCRYPTED. All supervisors and SWAT members are authorized to have this group in their portable radios. The primary use of this group is SWAT operations and SWAT training. Communication between users is permissible when not used for SWAT operations. Communications does not have access to this group.

1.1.19 **PD NARC1**: ENCRYPTED. All radios used by narcotics unit investigators are authorized to have this group. The primary use is for communications between narcotics investigators. Communications does not have access to this group.

1.1.20 **PD NARC2**: ENCRYPTED. All radios used by narcotics unit investigators are authorized to have this group. The primary use is as an additional group for use when conducting two narcotics operations. Routine communication between narcotics unit users is permissible on a secondary basis. Communications does not have access to this group.

2. Selection and Use of Conventional Channels

2.1 The primary use of the conventional channels is communication between different agencies when necessary. All city radios have these channels. All other conventional channels are part of the national plan for 800 MHz public safety systems. FCC rules prohibit use of the national channels for routine communication between units of the same agency.

2.2 All of the conventional channels are repeater channels and are <u>not</u> <u>encrypted</u>. In addition to repeater channels, each of the channels has a simplex ("talk around" or "direct") channel to allow short range, direct radio-to-radio communication when the repeater is not available or is out of range. The maximum distance that radios will operate direct is dependant on several factors, such as height of the radio antenna, terrain, man-made objects, weather, antenna type, transmitter power, etc. Direct range may vary from several hundred feet under very adverse conditions to as much as ½ mile or more under ideal conditions. On portable radios, direct operation is indicated by the symbol "| |" at the top of the front panel display.

2.3 The following conventional channels are authorized for all city radios:

2.3.1 **8CALL90**: This is the national calling channel. It is to be used for initiating contact with another agency only. After contact is made, you should move to one of the national tactical channels. The channel may not be used for communication between units of the same agency except in emergencies. This is a repeater channel.

2.3.2 **8CALL90D**: Same frequency and use as 8CALL90, except this is a direct channel.

2.3.3 **8CALL91**: This is a national tactical channel. It may be used for operations between agencies only. This channel may not be used for routine communications between units of the same agency except in emergencies. This is a repeater channel.

2.3.4 **8CALL91D**: Same frequency and use as 8CALL91, except this is a direct channel.

2.3.5 **8CALL92**, **8CALL93**, **8CALL94**: Additional national tactical channels. These channels are for the same use as 8CALL91, but on different frequencies.

2.3.6 **8CALL92D, 8CALL93D, 8CALL94D**: Additional direct channels for 8CALL92, 8CALL93, 8CALL94. These channels are for the same use as 8CALL91D, but on different frequencies.

2.3.7 **BACKUP**: North Little Rock licensed backup repeater. The primary use is for emergency warning siren system backup activation. Secondary use is as a backup in the event the trunked radio system fails. All city radios have access to this channel. Communication between city departments and PD units as well as PD-to-PD units is permissible.

2.3.8 **DIRECT**: This is the direct channel for BACKUP. Direct communication between city and PD units as well as PD-to-PD units is permissible.

2.3.9 **VERIZON**: NLR licensed repeater located at the Verizon Arena. Primary use is for Verizon Arena events. All city radios and MEMs have access to this channel

2.3.10 **VDIRECT**: This is the direct channel for VERIZON. This channel does not use the repeater. Primary use is for Verizon Arena events. All city radios and MEMs have access to this channel

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Mike Davis
Chief of Police