

June 28, 2004

Dear Illinois Public Safety Official;

As part of its statewide interoperable communications strategy, the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) is offering a STARCOM21 (800 MHz) radio to every police, fire, emergency management and public health agency, as well as, dispatch centers throughout the state. STARCOM21 is the wireless voice radio system being implemented statewide by the Illinois State Police, and it offers the possibility of interoperability among all of the public safety disciplines.

**The radio, as well as five years of basic access to a statewide communications system, is being offered by the ITTF at no cost to local agencies and departments under guidelines detailed below. After five years, the cost for basic access will be \$100 per year per radio.**

The purpose of this letter is to determine whether your agency wishes to participate in this program (see enclosed survey form). The ITTF views STARCOM21 as an integral piece of the statewide interoperable communications plan. The STARCOM21 plan is endorsed by the Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators (IAPHA), the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA), the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA), the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS), and the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) among others.

The goal of the ITTF is to establish a statewide "ITTF Announcement" STARCOM21 talk group that will include all public safety agencies in the state. This talk group can be monitored free of charge around the clock by any agency that has a STARCOM21 radio. The free basic access includes:

- Notification of change to the Homeland Security Threat Advisory System from the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
- Monthly statewide tests
- Exercises (quarterly, or approved in advance by the STARCOM21 Systems Operations Manager)

- Notification from the SEOC about incidents
- Communications en route while responding to an incident

**Agencies utilizing the STARCOM21 system for ongoing responses to an incident will be directed to another talk group and will incur a \$53 per radio charge for every 30-day period that the STARCOM21 radio is utilized in that way. Participation in the program also includes basic installation free of charge. However, if a custom installation is required, those additional charges would have to be approved and paid for by the receiving agency.**

In addition to the statewide "ITTF Announcement" talk group, Motorola will set up a separate talk group for each of the 19 Homeland Security Regions, as well as, a couple of disaster response talk groups where regions and/or counties could be linked.

If your agency wishes to purchase additional radios, the costs on the attached product description sheet would apply. Also, if your agency chooses to purchase radios for day-to-day operations, you are welcome to contract with Motorola under separate agreement.

**Please return the enclosed questionnaire by July 30 to:**

Illinois Terrorism Task Force  
c/o Regional Institute for Community Policing  
2930 Montvale Drive, Suite B  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Your feedback is very important to the ITTF, so please take a moment to complete the questionnaire, along with your comments, whether or not you want a radio. If you have questions regarding the ITTF program, please contact the ITTF office by telephone at 217-558-1334 or by e-mail at [mchamness@iema.state.il.us](mailto:mchamness@iema.state.il.us). If you have questions about STARCOM21, please contact Mr. Joe Galvin of Motorola at 847-538-6030 or at [www.motorola.com/cgiss/starcom21](http://www.motorola.com/cgiss/starcom21). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mike Chamness  
Chairman  
Illinois Terrorism Task Force

Encl: ITTF STARCOM21 Questionnaire  
STARCOM21 Product Description Sheet