



Middle Tennessee Radio System Common/Event Talkgroups and Conventional Channel Usage

Purpose:

The effectiveness of the mutual aid communications path is dependent on the implementation of a plan for the talkgroup's and channel's use. Mutual Aid channels and Common talkgroups, TN and National Interop/channels have been made available to the Middle Tennessee Radio System (MTRS) user's for inter-discipline and mutual aid communications with agencies from within and outside Rutherford County.

Policy:

The Common talkgroups have been established for inter-discipline and mutual aid communications. These talkgroups should be used for unit to unit, unit to dispatch, or announcements with any of the agencies on the MTRS. The Common talkgroups will reside in every radio in the same location (Daily Operational Zones) to make access to communication paths easier.

Procedures:

LE COMMON & FE COMMON Talkgroups

Agencies that are responding in Rutherford County to provide mutual aid should use these talkgroups when possible. Users from other systems are usually limited to the number of talkgroups that can be programmed in their radio, so utilizing the Common talkgroups will help facilitate their capabilities. Once responders come into the county, common talkgroups can be patched to the operational talkgroups they are using for that specific incident if needed.

- Anyone needing a Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Fire or EMS unit - Switch to FE COMMON and contact (Murfreesboro Communications or Rutherford County Communications.) When answered, make the request for service. Calling units should identify their agency and there call sign.
- Anyone needing a law enforcement unit - Switch to LE COMMON and contact (Murfreesboro Communications or Rutherford County Sheriff's Office.) When answered, make the request for service. Calling units should identify their agency and there call sign.

- *Weather announcements, BOLOs, and pertinent information to be shared with dispatch centers and field units could be made on these talkgroups to reach the greatest target audience without interruption of primary dispatch talkgroups.

****NOTE**** *Doing this would require all communication centers in the county to monitor at least the LE Common talkgroup.*

System-wide announcements:

The Common Talkgroups should be used for announcements/ BOLOs/ weather watches or warnings etc. This would allow any subscriber on the system to scan and monitor that talkgroup if they choose too. This would also allow direct notification from any communication center to other centers for announcements or notifications without affecting dispatch traffic on operational talkgroups.

Events Talkgroups:

The MTRS has defined a plan which prescribes the use of the EVENT 1–16 Talkgroups on the MTRS. This plan outlines the use of the talkgroups at preplanned events as well as their use during large scale responses or disasters.

- All radios on the MTRS have access to the EVENT talkgroups.
- The coordination of pre-planned events utilizing the Event talkgroups will be handled through MTRS Administration. Request should be no later than 5 days prior to the starting of an event. When a situation arises creating the need for an additional pre-assigned EVENT Talkgroup(s), communication centers will assign an available talkgroup(s) to the requesting agency. *MTRS Administration should be notified via email at mtrs@rutherfordcountyttn.gov when this occurs.*
- EVENT Talkgroups used in a large-scale incident/disaster should be implemented by either the communications center or the incident commander. (The usage would be implemented based on criteria set forth in the addendum on page 4 of this document and would apply system wide.) Radio traffic from an EVENT Talkgroup(s) can be patched via the dispatch console to a different talkgroup **if necessary**. *MTRS Administration should be notified via email at mtrs@rutherfordcountyttn.gov when this occurs.*
- The following pre-planned use of talkgroups within the MTRS during a large event or disaster.

Talkgroup Name	Usage
EVENT 1 & 2	Communications between mobile command post and MACC / PSC
EVENT 3 & 4	Field communications / coordination of Law Enforcement units
EVENT 5 & 6	Field communications / coordination of EMS units
EVENT 7,8,9,10	Field communications / coordination of Fire units
EVENT 11,12,	Field communications / coordination of Public Works & Other
EVENT 13,14,15,16	Used by agencies for regularly scheduled events (i.e. football games, festivals, etc.) Dynamically assignable by MTRS administration

**Conventional Mutual Aid Channels: 8TAC's / 8TNMA5 / TMAC / 7TAC'S / VTAC36
VTNMA5/ UTAC41 / UTAC43 / UTMMA5**

8TAC91, 8TAC93, 8TAC94, 8TNMA5, VTAC36, VTNMA5, UTMMA5, UTAC41, UTAC43 and TMAC 75 (Nashville) can be interfaced into MTRS by communication centers for users of VHF/UHF & 700/800MHz radios that do not have access to the MTRS. **(A future buildout in stages)** See below about Direct (D) which also relates to the above.

****Coordination for extended use of any Mutual Aid or Inter-Op channels must be coordinated through MTRS administration.***

7CALL50, 7TAC51, 7TAC52, 7TAC53, 7TAC54, 7TAC55, 7TAC71, 7TAC72, 7TAC73, 7TAC74, 7TAC75, 7TAC76 have been programmed into the Rutherford County 7/800MHz radios to provide additional avenues for interoperable communications with Williamson County. The direct (D) mode have also been programmed for these frequencies. **They follow each channel alias to show the (Direct Mode)**
Example: 7TAC50D

- These channels are in the "NPS 8, NPS 7 50-59, NPS 7 70-79 zones within each radio that is programmed on the MTRS.
- Traffic from the conventional channels can be patched, via the dispatch console to a talkgroup if necessary.
- Plain text must be used on each of these channels as not everyone uses the same list of 10 codes or signals.
- Repeater coverage is limited to approximately 8 miles from the repeater site when using a hand-held radio.
- The conventional channels should be used in direct (D) mode when coverage deems it necessary

*****NOTE** 8TAC93 is in Smyrna and is patched to VTAC36 and UTAC41***

The map below shows the locations of the Inter-Op repeaters:

“Future”

ADDENDUUM

Middle Tennessee Radio System Event Talkgroups

Talkgroup	Preplanned Usage	Usage
EVENT 1 CMD	PSC/EOC/Mobile Command	Primary
EVENT 2 CMD	PSC/EOC/Mobile Command	Assigned as needed
EVENT 3 LAW	Law Enforcement	Primary
EVENT 4 LAW	Law Enforcement	Assigned as needed
EVENT 5 EMS	EMS	Primary
EVENT 6 EMS	EMS	Assigned as needed
EVENT 7 FIRE	Fire	Primary
EVENT 8 FIRE	Fire	Assigned as needed
EVENT 9 FIRE	Fire	Assigned as needed
EVENT 10 FIRE	Fire	Assigned as needed
EVENT 11 GOV	General Government	Primary
EVENT 12 GOV	General Government	Assigned as needed
EVENT 13 PLAN	Regularly scheduled events	Assigned as needed
EVENT 14 PLAN	Regularly scheduled events	Assigned as needed
EVENT 15 PLAN	Regularly scheduled events	Assigned as needed
EVENT 16 PLAN	Regularly scheduled events	Assigned as needed