



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY**



James M. Thomas
Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Municipal CEO's, Fire Departments, Police Departments, EMD's, EMS Departments, Homeland Security P.O.C's

FROM: Mr. James M. Thomas, Commissioner 
Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

DATE: July 5, 2007

RE: Statewide Communications Interoperability Planning

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has established a grant program for Statewide Communications Interoperability Planning. This important program will provide over \$900,000,000 in grant funds to states to improve communications interoperability.

Participation in this program requires the development of a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan. A committee comprised of local and state agency representatives is tasked with development of this plan, and your participation is crucial in order to ensure that Connecticut's local and statewide needs are properly identified and prioritized.

In mid-July, grant guidance will be provided by the Department of Homeland Security in order that Connecticut may apply for its share of available funds. A draft statewide plan must be developed and submitted by September 20, 2007, with final plan submission November 1, 2007.

Workshops to gather requirements for all public safety disciplines have been scheduled as outlined in the table below. Please respond to Sheree.Bruce@ct.gov to confirm your participation in these meetings and to indicate how many people will attend from your organization. In the event that you cannot attend in person, a conference bridge will be available and you may dial 866-712-0554 and use pass code 6764485 to participate in the meeting.

	Date	Time	Training Location
Region 1	7/18	9a-12p	Norwalk Community College
Region 2	7/11	9a-12p	New Haven Fire Academy, 230 Ella T. Grasso Blvd. New Haven
Region 3	7/12	9a-12p	CT Fire Academy, 34 Perimeter Road Windsor Locks
Region 4	7/16	7-10 pm	Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Public Safety Complex
Region 5	7/17	7-10 pm	Bantam Fire Company
State/Federal Agencies	7/17	9a-12p	Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room 2B, 300 Capitol Ave. Hartford

Connecticut's success in obtaining funds and improving communications interoperability is dependent on your participation. Additional information, as available, will follow this notice.