

LIAISON EMERGENCY COORDINATOR (LEC)

The ARES organization of the Wisconsin Section announces a new position known as Liaison Emergency Coordinator, effective 1 September 2001. This position is at the same level as District Emergency Coordinator. The purpose of this position is to act as informational liaison between the Wisconsin ARES/RACES program and the several organizations with which the ARRL holds a Memorandum of Understanding. A more complete job description is listed later in this document.

BACKGROUND

The ARRL currently holds active Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with a number of organizations. Those for which an LEC will be appointed are:

1. APCO – the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, International, is made up of law enforcement, fire and public safety communications personnel.
2. FEMA – the Federal Emergency Management Agency – a federal organization that supports state and local civil-preparedness and emergency management agencies.
3. NCS – National Communications System – a confederation of government agencies and departments to insure that critical telecommunications needs of the Federal Government can be met in any possible emergency.
4. NWS – National Weather Service, a federal agency that works with the ARRL to provide weather spotting and communications networks through SKYWARN.
5. REACT – Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams – a public service organization of private radio operators.
6. Red Cross – extends assistance to individuals and families in times of disaster.
7. Salvation Army – provides assistance to individuals and families in times of disaster.

There are other MOUs as well – such as with NARTE –National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers and SBE – Society of Broadcast Engineers, and others. These are less relevant to emergency communications but they play a pivotal role in other aspects of Amateur Radio.

The positions will be titled according to their function, for example, LEC-FEMA, LEC-APCO, LEC-Red Cross and so on. As is the case with all DEC-level positions, these individuals will report to and be appointed by the SEC. A job description follows on the next page.

Applications from interested Amateur Radio operators are welcome – contact Dr. Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR, SEC and RACES Chief Radio Officer): (262) 284-9346 skaplan@mcw.edu. Applicants must be a member of Wisconsin ARES/RACES and a full member of the ARRL.

Liaison Emergency Coordinator (LEC)

Job Description

The Liaison Emergency Coordinator is appointed by the SEC to act as an interface contact with one of the emergency-oriented organizations with which the ARRL holds a Memorandum of Understanding. At present, there are seven: APCO, FEMA, NCS, NWS, REACT, Red Cross and the Salvation Army. If additional organizations are added, the SEC may expand this list as needed. The LEC's duties include the following:

1. Stay fully aware of developments within the MOU organization. This can be accomplished by regular reading of their newsletters, information bulletins on their web sites and other sources. The aim is to be cognizant of developments that might impact on ARES/RACES in Wisconsin.
2. When applicable, the LEC should maintain a contact list of the MOU organization (names, addresses, telephone numbers, cell telephone numbers, etc.) to facilitate contact with those individuals by ARES/RACES personnel during emergency response activity.
3. If a MOU organization would be active in emergency response at the state or local level, the LEC should make regular contact with the MOU personnel who would be involved in responding to the emergency.
4. The LEC should also facilitate furnishing information to the MOU contacts concerning ARES/RACES activities that could have an impact on their operations.
5. The LEC should immediately report important new developments in the MOU organization to the SEC, with informational copies to the SM.
6. The LEC should be prepared to counsel the SEC concerning emergency response, with regard to the interaction of ARES/RACES and the MOU organization.

Requirements: A valid Amateur Radio FCC license, full membership in the ARRL and membership in Wisconsin ARES/RACES.

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