

# 2015 Communications Outage Drill Summary

3 December 2015  
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# Communications Outage Exercise

## By the Numbers

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# Communications Outage Exercise

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## Objectives

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|--|----------------|
| 1. Exercise message passing and message net procedures.  | <b>Passed!</b> |
| 2. Exercise the amateur radio equipment and procedures at the SCC Fire Stations located in the City. | <b>Passed!</b> |
| 3. Exercise full end to end (Field to Dispatch) emergency message delivery.                          | <b>Passed!</b> |
| 4. Exercise Comm Van to DOC information handoffs.  | Needs Work     |
| 5. Manage information using OES documentation procedures and tracking methods.                       | <b>Passed!</b> |
| 6. Run the EOC on emergency generator power for 4 hours.   | <b>Passed!</b> |



# Communications Outage Exercise

## Feedback

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### What worked

- Comm Van had good simplex coverage.
- Field Ops with external antennas had great coverage.
- Good W6TDM UHF repeater coverage.
- 911 Net switching; didn't lose anyone.
- Interactions and teamwork between CARES and CERT field members.
- NCS adapted to hidden transmitter problem.
- CERT comments: "excellent experience", "an eye-opener".
- Fire Station equipment worked great!
- Good rapport with fire station personnel.

### What needs improvement

- Hidden Transmitter. Some field locations could not hear some stations; could not tell if the frequency was clear.
- Message NCS could not hear all the traffic... radio problem
- Insufficient utilization of the Van-DOC network for moving information.
- Incoming message formats were inconsistent. Need shorter messages.
- Drill message volume was too much,



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## Corrective Action Plans

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### 1. 911 Message Process

- 1.1 Repeat Comm Outage Exercise with Packet
- 1.2 Refine the Plan
- 1.3 Develop, deliver the training

May 2016

*County Comm, CARES*

*County RACES? CARES?*

### 2. Field Operations

- 2.1 Forms, Go-Kits
- 2.2 Message Handling

*CARES*

*CARES*

### 3. Comm Van Operations

- 3.1 Network applications
- 3.2 Resolve Position 3 radio reception problem

*CARES, DOC*

*CARES*

### 4. SCCFD Operations

- 4.1 Radio sensitivity
- 4.2 Revisit Comm Pack Radio Mounts
- 4.3 Complete Monta Vista Station Buildout
- 4.4 Volunteer Program

*CARES*

*CARES*

*SCCFD, CARES*

*SCCFD owns*



# Questions

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