

Emergency Telephone System Board Of DuPage County Policy and Procedures



Policy #: 911-005.12
Previous Policy #: new
Effective Date: April 12, 2023
Revised: May 14, 2025

Flash Message Talk Group

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure compliance with State of Illinois STARCOM21 and DEDIR System requirements for use and access of DEDIR System talk groups for the purpose of interoperability for emergency communications.

Goal:

It is the goal of the Emergency Telephone System Board of DuPage County (DuPage ETSB) to provide one seamless method of interoperable communication for use by agencies on DEDIR System.

Scope:

This policy shall apply to all Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in the DuPage ETSB 9-1-1 System, including all Telecommunicators and other employees of the PSAP, user agencies or DuPage ETSB staff, contracted vendors or other authorized agents, DEDIR System users and agencies receiving approval to access DEDIR System talk groups.

I. Policy Statement

DuPage ETSB leases a portion of the Motorola Solutions, Inc. STARCOM21 network in Illinois as an integrated component of its emergency dispatch telephone system. The system permits communication between telecommunicators and the first responding personnel they dispatch in response to calls placed to 9-1-1. The system also permits personnel from public safety agencies throughout the County to communicate with each other during emergency joint response situations.

A Flash message talk group is a talk group for announcing information that is deemed critical or urgent in nature. An announcement only talk group means that the Telecommunicators will impart information but officers should not communicate back to the Telecommunicators on this talk group.

II. Flash Message Talk Group

- a. DPSOTAC5 (Dee Pee ESS OH TAC 5) will be the Flash Message Talk Group
 - i. In the final phase of the DEDIR System Radio Replacement this talk group will be renamed: DUP FLASH
- b. This will be an announcement only Talk Group to broadcast events pursuant to the internal policies of the PSAPs.
- c. DPSOTAC5 or DUP FLASH will have the same priority as local channels, a priority 4, so it will not override primary police and fire dispatch talk groups when it is part of the user's radio scan list.
- d. Use of this talk group is authorized when events specifically outlined in the PSAP policy(s) should be communicated to multiple agencies.

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- e. Adjacent agencies outside of the DEDIR System may have access to the Flash Message Talk Group.

III. Testing of the Flash Message Talk Group

Upon approval of this policy, ETSB staff will transmit this policy to all DEDIR System members via their DEDIR System point of contact person.

Once the PSAPs have provided their internal policy and training to their employees and members, they will communicate this to ETSB. ETSB will send an MPS message to users advising that the Flash Message talk group is in service.

Policy adopted: _____

Greg Schwarze, Chair