FCC HOMELAND SECURITY LIAISON ACTIVITIES

Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS)

The CNSS consists of sixty Federal departments and agencies. The CNSS provides a forum for the discussion of policy issues, sets national policy, and promulgates direction, operational procedures and guidance for the security of national security systems. The FCC is an Observer Member of the CNSS. The CNSS is supported by two subcommittees, the Subcommittee on Telecommunications Security and the Subcommittee on Information Systems Security. Each Subcommittee meets at least twice yearly at a designated secure facility and the CNSS has a combined annual offsite meeting. These Subcommittees share information, coordinate recommendations concerning implementation of protective measures, and develop and issue guidelines, instructions, advisory memoranda, technical bulletins and incident reports.

Communications Government Coordinating Council (CGCC)

An NCS coordinated effort, the CGCC provides effective coordination of communications key infrastructure protection strategies and activities, policy, and communication across government and between the government and the communications sector to support the nation's homeland security mission. It acts as the counterpart and partner to the private industry-led Communications Sector Coordinating Council to plan, implement and execute sufficient and necessary sector-wide security programs for the Nation's Communications Critical Infrastructure. The CGCC is responsible for preparing the Communications Sector-Specific Plan.

Communications Security (COMSEC) Defense Acquisition Working Group (CDAWG)

CDAWG promotes knowledge of new Communications Security (COMSEC) equipment addresses various issues related to procurement of COMSEC equipment.

Continuity Communications Management Group (CCMG)

The CCMG addresses NCS Directive 3-10 (Minimum Requirements for Continuity Communications Capabilities) issues within organizations at the operational level. The CCMG meets quarterly.

Crypto Modernization Working Group (CNSS CMWG)

The FCC is a member of the CMWG and meets quarterly. The Cryptographic Modernization Program is a Department of Defense directed program and is guided by the National Security Agency Information Assurance Directorate. The mission of CMWG is to transform and modernize Information Assurance or COMSEC capabilities for the 21st century. The modernization has three phases: (1) replace all at-risk devices;

(2) integrate modular (*i.e.*, programmable, embedded) cryptographic solutions; and (3) transform and be compliant to specific network requirements.

Emergency Support Function #2 Communications Team (ESF # 2)

The FCC is a support agency under the National Response Framework for Emergency Support Function #2 (ESF # 2) — Communications. FCC personnel, with PSHSB coordination and EB management, deploy to FEMA field offices to support communications recovery and restoration. The NCS and FEMA work together to lead ESF # 2. PSHSB works closely with both the NCS and FEMA in conducting ESF #2 training, creating operating procedures, deploying expert staff, and conducting after-action reviews.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

In 2006, the FCC and FEMA formed a partnership to support the restoration of the critical communications infrastructure, including public safety systems, following a disaster or emergency event. Direct Federal support is provided to Federal, state, tribal, and local governments, first responders, and key private sector entities when their systems have been impacted. In 2008, the FCC and FEMA expanded their partnership to include FCC technical and staff support to the FEMA's Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMAT) to develop the initial communications impact situation report.

FEMA Emergency Support Function Leaders Group (ESFLG)

The FCC supports the NCS and FEMA as leaders of ESF #2. The ESFLG discusses operational and policy improvements to the National Response Framework and items of interest to the Emergency Support Function community.

Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services (FICEMS)

Congress established the FICEMS to, among other things, ensure coordination among the Federal agencies involved with state, local, tribal and regional emergency medical services (EMS) and 911 systems and to recommend programs for improving state, local, tribal and regional EMS and implementing improved EMS communications technologies, including wireless 911. FICEMS is administered jointly by the Departments of Transportation, Health and Human Services and Homeland Security. PSHSB serves as the designated FCC representative on FICEMS which meets at least twice a year.

Department of Homeland Security Emergency Communications Preparedness Center (ECPC)

The ECPC is a DHS coordinated effort seeking to reduce redundancy in interoperable communications projects at the Federal and state level.

Department of Homeland Security Federal Partnership for Interoperability Communications (FPIC)

The FPIC addresses technical and operational activities within the Federal wireless communications community. The FPIC develops recommendations for advisory and regulatory bodies; addresses mission critical communications issues and coordinates a unified Federal approach; and identifies and enhances interoperability capabilities within the Federal government and coordinates the same with state and local programs.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

PSHSB maintains regular contact with the HHS through meetings and phone calls on issues relating to health care and communications. HHS has also been a participant in several of the PSHSB Summits. PSHSB officials, in turn, have attended and presented at HHS events.

FAA/FCC Task Force

The FAA/FCC Task Force was established primarily to coordinate joint investigation of critical, purposeful interference to air traffic control frequencies ("phantom controllers"). A Memorandum of Understanding describes the situations where the task force should be activated, and involves coordination between FAA, FCC, FBI and other agencies to identify these transmissions and apprehend and prosecute the perpetrators.

FCC/U.S. Coast Guard Coordination Group

The FCC/U.S. Coast Guard Coordination group is a joint group of U.S. Coast Guard and FCC staff that meets regularly on issues related to maritime spectrum use, rules and policies related to radio licensing for vessels, and related issues.

Incident Management Planning Team (IMPT)

The IMPT is an interagency planning body that develops strategic level contingency plans predicated on the national planning Scenarios. These contingency plans unify the interagency prevention, protection, response and recovery actions with respect to an event or threat. The IMPT provides contingency and crisis-action incident management planning through a collaborative, interagency process. The IMPT consists of two components: (1) a core group of fifteen full-time planning representatives from key DHS elements as well as other key interagency members, including the Department of Defense, Department of Justice, FBI, HHS, Department of Transportation, Department

of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency and the American Red Cross; and (2) an "on-call" staff of thirty-eight planners that includes other members from the Department of Homeland Security as well as interagency members.

Information Dissemination and Coordination Team (IDCT)

The IDCT is an interagency group that works to improve the federal coordination and response to GPS interference events. The IDCT is co-chaired by a representative from the Department of Transportation and a representative from DOD's Joint Navigation Warfare Center. Three primary members have the lead responsibility for handling user reports of GPS anomalies: U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center (maritime and other civil users), FAA National Operations Center (airspace), and the GPS Operations Center (government and military). Agencies that support the IDCT include NTIA, NCS, U.S. Air Force, and the FCC. The FCC's role is in field radio direction-finding and interference mitigation.

Joint Services Crypto Modernization Working Group (JSCMWG)

JSCMWG is a non-CNSS working group that includes representatives from civil agencies and addresses topics related to Communications Security equipment and algorithms. The FCC is a member of the JSCMWG and meets quarterly.

Mixed Commission

The Mixed Commission, also known as Comision Mixta Encargada de Resolver Asuntos de Radiointerferencia (CMERAR), is an international organization charged with resolving harmful radio interference problems relating to licensed radio systems operating along and within the common border areas between the United States and Mexico. The Mixed Commission was formed in 1982 and consists of representatives from the FCC and the SCT (Secretaria de Comunicaciones y Transportes) of the United Mexican States. This organization historically handles over 100 such cases each year involving both interference to U.S. stations from radio facilities operating in Mexico and to Mexican stations from similar operations in the U.S. Quite often, these cases involve interference to public safety and Homeland Security radio services along the border. Many of the cases are handled at the local level (by FCC Enforcement Bureau District office personnel) by conducting meetings in Mexico and the United States which involve the FCC's Mexican counterparts at SCT and COFETEL (Comision Federal de Telecomunicaciones). An EB official serves as the Co-Chair of the Mixed Commission for the U.S.

National Communications System (NCS)

Twenty-four Federal departments and agencies with NS/EP communications responsibilities comprise the National Communications System (NCS). Per Executive Order 12472, the FCC is directed to assist the Manager of the NCS discharge his/her NS/EP duties. The NCS is part of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of

Cybersecurity and Communications (CSC). The CSC falls within the Directorate for National Protection and Programs. The FCC works closely with the NCS in several forums.

National Telecom Security Working Group (CNSS NTSWG)

Formerly the Telecommunications Security Group, CNSS NTSWG is a joint working group of the CNSS established to protect National Security Systems. NTSWG issues standards that are the primary technical and policy resource for all aspects of the Technical Surveillance Countermeasures Program within the U.S. Intelligence Community. However, the implementation of NTSWG standards do not preclude the application of more stringent requirements and may not satisfy the requirements of other security programs such as TEMPEST, COMSEC, or OPSEC. The current FCC representative was Chairman of the group from 2003 to 2007. The Group meets monthly.

NCS Council of Representatives (COR)

The NCS Committee of Principals established the COR as a working group for the Committee of Principals. The COR develops and reviews initiatives and provides expert policy and technical advice to the COP. After several years of inactivity, the COR held its first meeting on July 15, 2009.

NCS Government Emergency Telecommunications Service/Wireless Priority Service User Council (User Council)

The User Council provides a forum for emergency service professionals from Federal, state, local, tribal government, the communications sector, and other NS/EP organizations to identify their requirements and participate in the continuing operation, implementation, design and growth of the GETS and the WPS programs. The User Council meets quarterly.

NCS Priority Services Working Group (PSWG)

The NCS Committee of Principals established the PSWG as a working group for the Committee of Principals to examine the three telecommunications priority services: Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS), Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP), and Wireless Priority Service (WPS). PSWG efforts include: recommending improvements to these programs; developing methods for publicizing these programs; informing the Committee of Principals of priority services-related developments and issues; engaging collaboratively with industry with respect to these programs; developing recommendations for the use of priority services with next generation networks, satellite communications, and other services; and performing other tasks as requested by the assigned by the Committee of Principals. A PSHSB Official Chairs the PSWG.

NCS Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program Working Group (SHARES)

The NCS coordinates the SHARES program, which provides High Frequency radio connectivity between key NS/EP Federal, state, tribal, and local entities. The SHARES Working Group discusses issues within the High Frequency radio community and the SHARES network. The SHARES WG meets monthly.

NCS Telecommunications Service Priority Oversight Committee (TSP OC)

Part 64 of the FCC's Rules established the TSP OC. The TSP OC is responsible for identifying, reviewing, and recommending actions to correct or prevent any systemic problems in the Telecommunications Service Priority program. The TSP OC membership comprises seven members from Federal agencies, including a non-voting FCC representative, seven members from industry, two members from state government, one NCS administrator that administers the system on a daily basis, and a Designated Federal Official. The TSP OC meets quarterly.

Purposeful Interference Response Team (PIRT)

The PIRT is an interagency group chaired by U.S. Stratcom to coordinate U.S. Government resources in order to identify and mitigate intentional interference to satellite communications. The FCC, in its role as civil communications regulator, is a signatory and is involved in satellite signal monitoring and coordination with other regulatory authorities internationally. Other agencies involved in the PIRT include U.S. State Department, NTIA, National Air and Space Intelligence Center, NASA, USGS, and other agencies with responsibilities, capabilities and/or interest in satellite interference issues.

Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECCWG)

FEMA Region oriented groups that include federal, state, and local communications entities.

Team Telecom

In analyzing telecommunications applications (Section 214 authorizations, cable landing licenses) where there is disclosable foreign ownership and requests for a declaratory ruling under section 310(b)(4) of the FCC's rules for greater than 25 percent indirect foreign ownership of common carrier wireless licenses, the FCC will coordinate the application/petition with the Executive Branch for national security, law enforcement, foreign policy or trade concerns. In the Foreign Participation Order of 1997, the FCC set forth its policy to consider these issues in reviewing an application, but stated that it would defer to the expertise of the Executive Branch. The International Bureau refers these applications to Team Telecom, an interagency group that reviews the applications for potential national security, law enforcement, and public interest concerns. Staff from the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, including the FBI, and Department of Defense co-lead Team Telecom.

Based on its review, Team Telecom may have no comment on any application or may request that the FCC condition grant of the application on compliance with assurances made by the applicant in either an exchange of letters or a formal security agreement. The FCC will not act on an application until Team Telecom has completed its review of the application.

TEMPEST Advisory Group (CNSS TAG)

TEMPEST is an unclassified term — not an acronym — referring to investigations and studies of compromising emanations or, unintentional intelligence-bearing signals which, if intercepted and analyzed, disclose the information transmitted, received, handled, or otherwise processed by information-processing equipment. The TAG recommends, provides, and certifies training for TEMPEST officials, such as Certified TEMPEST Technical Authorities (CTTA). The FCC is a member of the CNSS TAG and participates in quarterly meetings.