



# AAND Today

Official quarterly newsletter of the Alabama Association of 9-1-1 Districts

First Quarter 2008

## 911 Long-Range Study Commission Will Be Tops in 2008

### ACCA's Legislative Program Includes Policy on 911 Study Commission

The 2008 ACCA Legislative Program includes a clear statement of support for the local delivery and governance of 911 programs in Alabama. The policy was recommended by the Association's steering committees and then approved by the Board of Directors and the membership at the conclusion of the Legislative Conference in Auburn in early December.

ACCA President Jerold Dean of Conecuh County pointed out the policy statement is written in broad terms because the study commission has yet to report its findings and, therefore, the Association cannot react to any specific recommendations.

"The policy makes it clear that ACCA and all of county government will stand together with the 911 districts to ensure that this important local program remains a local program," Dean added.

The policy statement of the Association states,

*"The Alabama Emergency Communication District Long-Range Study Commission will make its report to the Alabama Legislature in February 2008.*

*ACCA supports a comprehensive evaluation of the activities, revenue sources and expenditures of local 911 programs if it is accompanied by a similar review of the activities of the telecommunication and wireless companies that collect and remit service fees.*

*The Association strongly opposes any legislation that would hinder the ability of local 911 programs to provide this essential service in a timely and cost-effective manner."*

### Study Commission to Hold January Meeting

The legislature's study commission on 911 issues will hold its next meeting on **Jan. 8 and 9** in Montgomery. The Jan. 8 meeting will be at 4 p.m. and the commission will reconvene at 9 a.m. on Jan. 9.

The meeting on Jan. 8 will be a short organizational session, with many issue-related discussions and actions to be on the agenda for Jan. 9, according to commission chairman, Sen. Ted Little (D) of Auburn.

The commission's three sub-committees have held organizational meetings, but are not expected to make recommendations on specific suggestions for any legislative changes to be included in commission's report to the full legislature.

Created in the 2007 act that also altered the distribution of the existing statewide 911 fee on wireless communication users, the commission is to report its findings to the legislature by the fifth day of the 2008 session.

#### SAVE THESE DATES...

**FUNDAMENTALS OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION I (This course was originally scheduled for Jan. 23-24, and has been postponed due to unexpected scheduling conflicts. The class will be rescheduled so those who hope to complete the certification program by August 2008 will not be delayed by this change.)** This course will include valuable personnel management information that is tailored to meet the needs of E-911 District Administrators. Personnel laws included are ADA standards, the American Family Leave Act, and the Open Meetings law. Other human resource issues will be included, such as hiring and interviewing prospective employees, employee evaluations, and alcohol and drug policies. Relationships with elected officials, long-range planning and quality assurance issues will also be addressed. \$155 - Call 800-634-7199 to register.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION II (Feb. 6-7)** This course will include the fundamentals of managing the E-911 department. Topics will be budget preparation and development, managing expenditures, workplace safety, internal controls, general accounting, audit preparation and records retention. The Competitive Bid Law and public works will also be included. \$155 - Call 800-634-7199 to register.

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**Don't forget to return your survey!**

The Revenue Sub-Committee of the legislature's 911 Long-Range Study Commission has distributed a short survey designed to give committee members a look at the financial condition of our local 911 districts.

*All 911 districts are urged to return the survey in order to allow the committee to make an accurate report to the full commission.*

"This survey is important," said **Art Faulkner**, the state's 911 coordinator and a member of the sub-committee, "and will impact the actions of the commission. It will give the commission an opportunity to understand the challenges the districts face in providing the essential 911 services to every citizen of Alabama."



**Have you received your letter from the Wireless Board?**

If you have not already received your letter from the Wireless Board concerning whether your local district is receiving Phase II calls, keep your eyes on your mail. Once you receive your letter, be sure to complete, sign and return it as quickly as possible.

The letter is an important part of implementing the 2007 wireless legislation and will impact additional revenue and reimbursements for which you may be eligible. Please follow the instructions included in the packet and feel free to contact the wireless board if you have any questions.

Without your response, the board will be unable to move forward with the distributions of the additional money. So please respond!

**Is your neighbor Phase II compliant?**



No? Then, now is the time to give your good neighbor a call to make sure! Alabama has between 15 and 20 ECDs that are not yet receiving and processing calls in a manner complying with the federal and state definition of "Phase II."

The Alabama Legislature has set aside \$2 million to reimburse the districts for meeting these requirements. AAND's leadership, the state Wireless Board and the long-range study commission are all working to help these districts.

But, the most effective way to assist the districts in implementing this process may be the advice and hands-on assistance from a neighbor. Our willingness to help each other is one of our strengths, so do the right thing...pick up the phone or, better yet, get in the car and go see your neighbor, and help ensure they complete this process!

**Make plans now to come to The Hill!**

**County Day @ the Legislature**

**Wednesday and Thursday • April 16-17, 2008**

**Don't forget ACCA's District Meetings!** Before you come to The Hill, prepare yourself by attending a district meeting. Each meeting begins with dinner at 6 p.m. and includes a comprehensive discussion of the Association's Legislative Program. **EVERY** county **SHOULD** be represented. Registration forms are online at [www.acca-online.org](http://www.acca-online.org).

**Pick a date, and attend an ACCA District Meeting:** **Jan. 8** (District Meeting in Lawrence County), **Jan. 9** (District Meeting in St. Clair County), **Jan. 14** (District Meeting in Conecuh County), **Jan. 15** (District Meeting in Greene County), **Jan. 22** (District Meeting in Pike County) and **Jan. 23** (District Meeting in Montgomery County).

# Mark your calendars for the AAND District Meetings...

The AAND District Meetings have been scheduled for January and coincide with the ACCA District Meetings. The District Meetings will be a time to discuss the upcoming Legislative Session and other important issues. Please feel free to attend the meeting that is most convenient for you. There is **no charge for attending**, but please register so that we can plan for materials, etc.

**Districts 1 and 4** (*Bibb, Choctaw, Colbert, Dallas, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Marengo, Marion, Perry, Pickens, Sumter, Tuscaloosa, Walker, Wilcox and Winston*)

**Tuesday, Jan. 8 from 1-3 p.m.** at the Phelps Activity Center located at 2200 Rock Quarry Drive in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Directions: From McFarland Boulevard (US HWY 82) take Rice Mine Road NE toward Lake Tuscaloosa for about 3 miles. You will come to the intersection, with a traffic light, of Rice Mine Road and New Watermelon Road, continue straight through the intersection, on your right will be a shopping center, The Shops of Lake Tuscaloosa, with a Publix grocery. Just past the shopping center is Rock Quarry Drive to the right, which also goes to Rock Quarry Elementary, there is a sign. Turn here, and the Mary Ann Phelps Activity center is at the very end of the road, approximately .35 miles.

**Districts 2, 3 and 5** (*Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Chilton, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Cullman, DeKalb, Etowah, Jackson, Jefferson, Madison, Marshall, Morgan, Randolph, Shelby, St. Clair, Talladega and Tallapoosa*)

**Wednesday, Jan. 9 from 2-4 p.m.** at the Oxford Civic Center located at 401 McCullars Lane in Oxford, Ala.

Directions: Just off of I-20 at Exit 185.

**District 7** (*Baldwin, Butler, Clarke, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe and Washington*)

**Monday, Jan. 14 from 2-4 p.m.** at the Matthew Davis Evergreen Fire Station located at 514 Rural Street in Evergreen, Ala.

Directions: From I-65 N take a right onto

Highway 83, also known as Liberty Hill Drive. Go about 2 miles to the first red light and make a right onto Rural Street. The fire station will be on the right. From I-65 South, take a left onto Highway 83 and follow directions above.

**Districts 6 and 8** (*Autauga, Barbour, Bullock, Chambers, Coffee, Dale, Elmore, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Montgomery, Pike and Russell*)

**Tuesday, Jan. 22 from 1-3 p.m.** at the Pike County Commission Room located at 900 S. Franklin Drive in Troy, Ala.

Directions: The Commission Room is located upstairs in the Pike County Health Department. Take US Highway 231 N or S into Troy Turn left from the north or right from the south, onto South Franklin Drive. The Health Department is the second large brick building on the right side.

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## AAND District Meeting Registration

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Person Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_

District Meeting you will be attending: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please register the following persons for the AAND District Meetings:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fax completed form to ACCA • Attn: Donna Key • (334) 263-7678**

AAND is kickin' off the



New Year!



**100 N. Jackson Street  
Montgomery, Ala. 36104**