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**State of Montana
Office of the Governor**



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Executive Order No. 21-97

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE
MONTANA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL

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WHEREAS, the public safety of the citizens of Montana is of paramount importance; and

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WHEREAS, public safety communications provides a critical role protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Montana; and

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WHEREAS, the State's public safety communications infrastructure is rapidly becoming outdated; and

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WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission is adopting regulatory changes which require public safety communications systems to conform to new technology standards in order to increase the efficiency of these systems; and

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WHEREAS, the effectiveness of public safety communications to share voice and data information between jurisdictions is critical to the mission of public safety; and

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WHEREAS, the Public Safety Communications Task Force has developed recommendations to implement a shared public safety communications infrastructure; and

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WHEREAS, the Public Safety Communications Task Force has

1 recommended that the State of Montana continue to work
2 cooperatively with federal, state, local, and private entities
3 having similar communications requirements, to design, implement
4 and maintain a shared public safety communications
5 infrastructure; and

6 WHEREAS, there exist opportunities to partner with private
7 industry to share in the costs associated with communications
8 infrastructure; and

9 WHEREAS, the coordination and support of the public safety
10 communications effort is an ongoing and long term effort.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of
12 Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the laws and
13 Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby create the
14 Montana Public Safety Communications Council.

15 I. PURPOSE

16 The purpose of the Montana Public Safety Communications
17 Council is to provide policy level direction for matters related
18 to designing, implementing, and maintaining Montana's public
19 safety communications infrastructure. To that end it shall:

20 A. Establish a governance structure for shared authority
21 regarding the management of Montana's public safety
22 communications infrastructure.

23 B. Exercise authority for strategic decision-making with
24 regard to Montana's public safety communications
25 infrastructure including: 1) policy development, 2)
26 participation (identification and certification of entities
27 allowed to use Montana's public safety communications
28 infrastructure), 3) financial planning, 4) cost recovery,

1 5) acceptable use, 6) deployment of new technologies, and
2 7) other policy issues related to the Montana's public
3 safety communications infrastructure as determined by the
4 Council.

5 C. Seek statutory authority, during the 1999 General
6 Session of the State of Montana Legislature, to include
7 approval of structure, function and funding for public
8 safety communications infrastructure, as well as provide
9 the basis for the joint participation of state agencies,
10 interested local governments, federal agencies, and private
11 entities as deemed appropriate.

12 II. COMPOSITION

13 The Council shall consist of fourteen (14) members
14 appointed by the Governor, as identified below:

15 A. The Director of the Department of Administration (or
16 designee) who shall chair the Council;

17 B. A representative who shall represent the Montana Power
18 Company and other private utilities participating as
19 private entities;

20 C. A representative from local government who will
21 represent the general local government operations of the
22 municipalities, cities, and towns of Montana;

23 D. A representative from local government who will
24 represent the county government operations of Montana;

25 E. A representative from the federal government who will
26 represent the federal government operations of the public
27 safety departments, agencies and bureaus of the federal
28 government;

1 F. Two representative from State agencies who will
2 represent State government operations;

3 G. Two representatives from law enforcement who will
4 represent the Montana Association of Chiefs of Police and
5 the Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association;

6 H. A representative from the emergency medical services
7 community from the State of Montana;

8 I. A representative of the citizens at large from the
9 State of Montana;

10 J. A representative from the fire protective services of
11 the state of Montana;

12 K. A representative from the 9-1-1 community of the state
13 of Montana;

14 L. One Tribal representative.

15 The Department of Administration/Information Services
16 Division will provide technical and administrative support for
17 the Council.

18 The names and addresses of members appointed by the
19 Governor shall be submitted by separate appointment letters to
20 the Secretary of State.

21 III. DURATION

22 This Council shall exist for a period of two years from the
23 effective date of this Order unless otherwise ordered by
24 subsequent Executive Order.

25 This Order is effective immediately.
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GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT
SEAL of the State of Montana,
this 13th day of November, 1997.

Marc Racicot
MARC RACICOT, Governor

ATTEST:

Mike Cooney
MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State

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