



The *REACTer*

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◇ FCC Upholds \$7000 Forfeiture Order to California CB Operator
- ◇ Mission Critical
- ◇ Newly Chartered Teams
- ◇ COR and Multi-County Fire Corps form Partnership



1962-2012

In 1962, a sick infant, a disabled car on a Chicago Freeway and a January blizzard prompted Henry "Pete" Kreer to envision using CB Radio to get help in these types of emergencies.

In 2012 *REACT* celebrates 50 years helping the motoring public.



REACT Involvement We Provide



Communications Support for Community Activities

- Marathons
- Fairs
- Halloween Patrols
- Walkathons
- Parades
- Cart Races
- Bike Races
- Chili Cook-Off
- Tractor Races
- Hot Air Balloons
- Triathalons
- Drag Races
- Air Shows
- Motorboat Races
- Road Rallies
- Radio Classes
- Fireworks Displays
- Safety Breaks
- Canoe Races
- Radios for Mexico
- Animal Evacuation
- Traffic Reports
- Amber Alerts
- Neighborhood Watch
- National Celebrations
- Easter Seal Run / Walk
- Special Populations Programs
- Vehicle Assistance
- Search and Rescue



Communications Support for Agencies and Organizations

- American Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Missing Persons Searches
- March of Dimes
- Emergency Operations Centers
- News Media
- Fire Watch
- Special Olympics
- Toys for Tots
- Local Government Agencies
- State and Federal Agencies
- SkyWarn and NWS/NOAA
- Accident Reports
- Flood Watch
- CERT
- School Districts
- Parks Departments
- Disaster Emergency Drills
- Ministry of Transportation
- National SOS
- Simulated Emergency Test (SET)
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Hurricane Watch
- Emergency Rescue Unit Fdtn
- Cancer Society
- Audubon Society
- American Diabetes Association
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- GERC

The REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams) Mission

"We will provide public service communications to individuals, organizations and government agencies to save lives, prevent injuries and give assistance wherever and whenever needed."

"We will strive to establish a monitoring network of trained volunteer citizen based communicators using any and all available means to deliver the message."

Communications Volunteers Needed. See www.REACTIntl.org for more information



The REACTer



1962-2012

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Table of Contents

<i>REACT</i> Involvement	2
Publication Information	4
Corporate Officers	5
FCC Upholds \$7000 Forfeiture Order to CA CB Operator ..	6
Mission Critical	8
MURS.....	10
Newly Chartered Teams	11
American Red Cross	11
COR & Multi-County Fire Corps for Partnership	12
Headquarters Staff.....	15
Board of Directors.....	16



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Photo submissions are welcome and encouraged with all articles. Your ideas are always welcome but we would prefer complete stories. Decisions as to when and whether to publish your idea or story remain at the sole discretion of REACT International, Inc.

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FCC Upholds \$7000 Forfeiture Order to California CB Operator

After a Merced, California man refused to let FCC investigators inspect his Citizens Band (CB) radio station, the FCC issued -- and upheld -- a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* for \$7000 for not allowing the inspection. In issuing the *NAL* in March 2011, the FCC found that Ira Jones “apparently willfully and repeatedly” violated Section 303(n) of the *Communications Act of 1934, as amended*, and Section 95.426(a) of the Commission’s rules (CB Rule 26) by failing to permit the inspection. Jones responded to the *NAL*, but the FCC upheld the forfeiture amount, saying that Jones’ arguments were “irrelevant” and “unpersuasive.”

Background

In March 2010, agents from the FCC’s office in San Francisco responded to a complaint regarding radio frequency interference within the radio communication system equipment of the Merced County Fire Department. The agents observed that transmissions on 27.165 MHz -- a frequency within the CB radio spectrum -- appeared to match the audio distortion received on frequency 154.4 MHz within the Merced County Fire Department’s audio receiver and speaker system. According to the FCC, this appeared to be audio rectification interference within the department’s receiver and speaker system. Audio rectification interference occurs when an electronic circuit -- usually an amplifier -- which ideally should respond only to audio frequency signals, responds to external RF signals. Typically, the circuit picks up signals from a nearby radio transmitter in addition to the sound the listener wants to hear.

The agents monitored the radio transmissions on 27.165 MHz and used radio direction finding techniques to locate the source of the signal and found it to be emanating Jones’ residence in Merced, California. A week later, the agents monitored frequency 27.165 MHz again and located the interference be coming

from Jones’s residence. Later the same day, the agents approached Jones’ residence, knocked on his door, identified themselves as agents of the FCC and presented their official badges and credentials; the individual answering the door identified himself as Jones. The agents told him about the radio frequency interference complaint and asked him if he was the owner or operator of the CB radio station.

Jones acknowledged that he was the operator of the CB radio station, but denied causing any interference to the Merced County Fire Department. The agents then requested that they be allowed to inspect the CB radio station to determine the cause of the interference. Jones denied the agents’ request. The agents warned him that refusing to allow an inspection of a CB radio station is a violation of Section 95.426(a) of the FCC’s rules and *Section 303(n) of the Communications Act*; they explained that these rules require CB operators to make their stations available to authorized FCC representatives for inspection. Jones again denied the request and asserted that the FCC must have a search warrant to inspect his CB station. The agents advised him that he was required to take necessary precautions to avoid causing radio interference by operating at power levels that do not exceed legal limits and by refraining from using a radio frequency power amplifier.

Prior to leaving the premises, the agents issued Jones an on-scene *Notice of Unlicensed Operation*, expressly warning that refusal to allow inspection of his radio equipment violated Section 303(n) of the *Communications Act* and included the full text of Section 303(n). Jones refused to accept a copy of the *Notice* and the agents left the document on a chair near the front door of the house. The agents then left the premises, but continued to monitor 27.165 MHz and heard Jones describe the agents’ attempted inspection.

Continues on page 7



[Continued from page 6]

In August 2010, in response to another complaint from the Merced County Fire Department, San Francisco agents again monitored 27.165 MHz and located the source of the interfering signal to a CB radio station operating from Jones's residence. Later the same day, the agents -- along with two Merced City police officers -- approached Jones in his front yard, identified themselves as FCC agents and presented their official badges and credentials. The two Merced City police officers identified the man as Jones. The agents told Jones about the radio frequency interference complaint and requested that they be allowed to inspect the CB radio station to determine the cause of the interference. Jones denied the request, again admitting that although he was the owner and operator of the CB radio station, he was not the owner of the house and that he had to refuse the inspection. The agents explained that refusal to allow an inspection could result in a \$7000 forfeiture assessment, and Jones said that he understood.

After further conversation with the agents and the police officers, Jones admitted to being the owner of the house. The agents again requested that they be allowed to inspect the CB radio station and reiterated that his refusal to allow an inspection of a CB radio station was a violation of Section 95.426(a) of the FCC's rules and Section 303(n) of the Communications Act and subject to a forfeiture. Jones again denied the inspection request. The agents then gave him an oral warning and issued Jones a second on-scene *Notice of Unlicensed Operation*. He again refused to accept a copy of the *Notice* and the agents left the document on a wooden yard border and then left the premises. Two weeks later, the San Francisco Office received another complaint from the Merced County Fire Department stating that Jones had resumed CB radio station operation and interference within its radio communication system equipment had also resumed.

FCC Calls Jones' Arguments "Irrelevant" and "Unpersuasive," Says \$7000 Forfeiture Is "Warranted"

Jones was given until April 9, 2011 to pay the \$7000 forfeiture, or file a written statement by that date, seeking a reduction or cancellation of the amount. In his filing, Jones argued that he should not be subject to forfeiture because he had not seen a complaint from the Merced Fire department naming him as the source of the interference. "This argument is irrelevant to the investigation of Mr. Jones' violation of the Commission's requirement that he make his CB station available to FCC representatives for inspection," the FCC stated. "Neither Section 303(n) of the Communications Act nor Section 95.426(c) of the FCC's Rules requires that a complaint be filed as a prerequisite for FCC representatives to inspect a CB station. There is no question that Mr. Jones' CB equipment was the source of the complained-about interference. The agents used direction finding techniques to determine that the source of the signal associated with the interference to the Merced County Fire Department came from Mr. Jones' residence. Mr. Jones does not dispute that the San Francisco agents located the source of the interference to his house on three separate occasions." According to the FCC, Jones also alleged that the agents neither presented appropriate identification and nor gave him oral or written warnings: "We find Mr. Jones' allegations unpersuasive. As discussed above, consistent with practice, the San Francisco agents approached Mr. Jones' house, presented their government-issued identification to him and requested to conduct an inspection to determine if Mr. Jones' CB radio equipment was the source of the interference on frequency 27.165 MHz. With respect to whether Mr. Jones received any warnings, the response itself includes copies of the two *Notices* left by the agents. Both *Notices* clearly state 'agents of the Federal Communications Commission noted the following condition regarding the Citizen Band (CB) radio station located at [Mr.

Jones' address]:
Your refusal to

[Continues on page 10]



RadioResource

MissionCritical
COMMUNICATIONS

TRANSMISSION
NEWSLETTER



Communications Key in Colorado Wildfires

The 800 MHz system, operating at 35 watts, worked at about 90 percent of the roadblocks and checkpoints, said Rowe. But the county had to deploy a VHF mobile radio at a checkpoint deep in the Cache La Poudre canyon where the 800 MHz network did not reach. Technicians created a transportable 100-watt VHF radio system that clipped onto a Humvee battery and attached mag-mount antennas to the vehicle roof to address coverage gaps... [More](#)

Hearing on Cell-Phone Tracking by Law Enforcement

Rep. Markey's request for information from mobile carriers found that use of cellphone tracking is rapidly increasing. In 2011, federal, state and local law enforcement agencies made more than 1.3 million requests of wireless carriers for cell-phone records... [More](#)

DMR Association Responds to Interference Allegations

The Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) Association responded to allegations of TDMA interference issues in the VHF spectrum, saying the problem isn't technology based but rather a spectrum and system design problem.



"DMR is a TDMA technology which offers the principle benefit of two simultaneous and independent talk paths in one single 12.5 KHz channel. DMR also provides comprehensive data and application support. Combining these two benefits results in many DMR deployments providing voice and data simultaneously in one RF channel," said Monique Princen, chair of the DMR Association marketing working group. "In analog systems, the simultaneous transmission of voice and data impacts voice priority and/or voice quality. Many analog users have abandoned or significantly reduced the use of data applications such as vehicle location reporting on their radio network because of these negative side effects. A migration to DMR has made it possible to support voice and data on the same channel, yielding greater spectrum efficiency and improved quality." ...

[More](#)



Globalstar affordable mobile satellite voice and data services

"It has been a long road to recovery but these four satellites becoming operational is expected to pave the way for us to begin offering quality mobile satellite voice and data services in August," said Tony Navarra, president of global operations for Globalstar. "Over the past 20 months we have completed the launch of 18 of our 24 new satellites."

... [More](#)

Commissioners Update House Communications Subcommittee

The House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on Communications and Technology met with all five FCC commissioners to discuss issues including communications networks and 9-1-1 outages during recent storms in the Mid-Atlantic region, spectrum allocations, process reform and Internet governance. "You need to know that I — and a majority of this subcommittee, and indeed a majority of the House — remain deeply committed to the cause of improving transparency and accountability at the FCC," Rep. Greg Walden, chairman of the subcommittee, told the commissioners.



ARRL filed petition for Broadband over Power Line reconsideration.

Last week, an FCC petition for reconsideration was published in the Federal Register. The petition requested the commission reconsider and modify its broadband over power line (BPL) second report and order. The order affirmed the FCC rules to regulate access BPL systems as unlicensed, unintentional radiators. Access BPL service transmits broadband data along existing electrical distribution systems using 3 – 80 MHz frequencies. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) filed the petition for reconsideration, which raises interference concerns and seeks reconsideration of the order. Oppositions to the petition for reconsideration are due July 17, and reply comments are due July 27.

ARRL BPL page <http://www.arrl.org/broadband-over-powerline-bpl>



[Continued from page 7]

allow an inspection of your radio equipment in violation of Section 303(n) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. You are hereby warned that refusal to allow inspection of your radio station constitutes violation of the Federal laws cited above and could subject the owner of this illegal operation to the severe penalties provided, including, but not limited to, substantial civil forfeitures, a maximum criminal fine of \$11,000 and/or one year imprisonment, or arrest of the equipment for the first offense.”

Jones, in his response to the FCC, also alleged that when the San Francisco agents requested an inspection on August 27, 2010 with two Merced City police officers, one of the police officers suggested that a warrant may be necessary. “Mr. Jones provides no information to support this claim and we reiterate what the San Francisco Office stated in the NAL: Commission agents are not required to obtain a warrant prior to conducting a radio station inspection,” the FCC noted. “Accordingly, as a result of our review of Mr. Jones’

Response, pursuant to the statutory factors above, and in conjunction with the Forfeiture Policy Statement, we conclude that he willfully and repeatedly violated Section 303(n) of the Communications Act and Section 95.426(a) of the FCC’s rules, and we find that a forfeiture in the amount of \$7,000 is warranted.” Jones had until August 25, 2012 to pay the \$7000 forfeiture.

MURS Multi User Radio Service

The Multi Use Radio Service (MURS) is a small two-way radio service consisting of five frequencies in the VHF spectrum regulated by 47 CFR §95. Established by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission in the fall of 2000, MURS created a radio service allowing for unlicensed operation, with a power limit of 2 watts, four times that of FRS radio. In the fall of 2002, the FCC further amended the MURS rules; these rule modifications included changing the 2 watt transmitter power limitation to be based on Transmitter Power Output (TPO), rather than Effective Radiated Power (ERP), so there is no longer an ERP limit with MURS, and external gain antennas may be utilized. The FCC formally defines MURS as ‘a private, two-way, short-distance voice or data communications service for personal or business activities of the general public.’

[Continues on page 13]



Welcome to *REACT* International the Following Newly Chartered Teams

- 6194 Seneca/Harden County *REACT* Findlay, OH
- 6195 Capitol NC *REACT* Kightdale, NC
- 6197 West Philadelphia *REACT* Philadelphia, A
- 6198 Seven Valleys *REACT* Berwyn, NE
- 6199 Windsor *REACT* Windsor, ON Canada
- 6200 *REACT* of Cuyahoga & Medina Cleveland, OH
- 6201 Desert Communities *REACT* Daggett, CA



American Red Cross

From NHQ

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Download and rate the app today and ask family and friends to do the same.

American Red Cross



COR and Multi-County Fire Corps form Partnership

By: Keith Sossamon

Several months ago, the Central Oklahoma *REACT* Team 6023 board members met with Larry Wooten, the Executive Director of Multi-County Fire Corps (MCFC), to see exactly what the Team could do to assist MCFC in times of emergencies. After much discussion, a vote was taken and the COR Board of Directors unanimously voted to a partnership with MCFC.

What is MCFC? It is a group of volunteers, from all different walks of life, who have one purpose; Supporting our local emergency first responders. They supply water and food at large incidents (fires, tornado disasters, etc.), teach fire safety, do fire safety inspections, have a junior fire corps for teenagers to learn about fire service, support families in times of need, provide smoke detectors and secure much needed equipment for needy fire departments. MCFC is also a part of Homeland Security.

While the Central Oklahoma *REACT* (COR) Team mainly covers counties surrounding Oklahoma County, MCFC covers counties west, southwest and northwest of Oklahoma County, including a couple of counties in the COR operating area. Both COR and MCFC members have worked side by side at several incidents and compliment each other with their experience in emergency management.

The COR Team still stays very busy with assisting law enforcement with traffic control, storm spotting, crowd control, perimeter control and search and rescue, however, they are ready for call-out at a moments notice to assist MCFC in an emergency situation.



Left to right- Alan Klein, Larry Wooten, Keith Sossamon, Mike Weiss, Chris Toner, David Spaulding and Brett Conner



[Continued from page 10]

MURS Multi User Radio Service

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Multi User Radio Service five frequencies

Frequencies	Authorized Bandwidth
151.820 <u>MHz</u>	11.25 <u>KHz</u>
151.880 MHz	11.25 KHz
151.940 MHz	11.25 KHz
154.570 MHz (also part of the <u>business band</u>)	20.00 KHz
154.600 MHz (also part of the business band)	20.00 KHz



Multi Use Radio Service (MURS)

The Official FCC Rules and Regulations for Multi Use Radio Service

In the Memorandum Opinion and Order and Second Report and Order (pdf) released May 23, 2002, the Commission updated the service rules regarding five Industrial/Business Pool VHF frequencies known in the PLMR community as the VHF “color dot” frequencies. These frequencies were moved from Part 90 to Part 95 and became a new Citizens Band Radio Service (CB) named the Multi-Use Radio Service (MURS). The Commission defines MURS as a private, two-way, short-distance voice or data communications service for personal or business activities of the general public.

[Continues to page 14]



[Continued from page 13]

Summary of MURS operations rules

Station Identification A MURS station is not required to transmit a station identification announcement. **Channel Use** The channels authorized to MURS systems are available on a shared basis only and will not be assigned for the exclusive use of any entity. Those using MURS transmitters must cooperate in the selection and use of MURS channels in order to reduce interference and make the most effective use of authorized facilities. Channels must be selected in an effort to avoid interference to other MURS transmissions. **Authorized Locations** MURS operation is NOT authorized aboard aircraft in flight.

Permissible Communications

- MURS stations may transmit voice or data signals as permitted in 47 CFR 95.631(j)
- A MURS station may transmit any emission type listed in 47 CFR 95.631(j)
- MURS frequencies may be used for remote control and telemetering functions.
- MURS transmitters may not be operated in the continuous carrier transmit mode.
- MURS users shall take reasonable precautions to avoid causing harmful interference. This includes monitoring the transmitting frequency for communications in progress and such other measures as may be necessary to minimize the potential for causing interference.

Operating Restrictions MURS stations are prohibited from operating as a repeater station or as a signal booster. This prohibition includes store-and-forward packet operation. MURS stations are prohibited from interconnection with the public switched network. **Interconnection Defined.** Connection through automatic or manual means of multi-use radio stations with the facilities of the public switched telephone network to permit the transmission of messages or signals between points in the wireline or radio network of a public telephone company and persons served by multi-use radio stations. Wireline or radio circuits or links furnished by common carriers, which are used by licensees or other authorized persons for transmitter control (including dial-up transmitter control circuits) or as an integral part of an authorized, private, internal system of communication or as an integral part of dispatch point circuits in a multi-use radio station are not considered to be interconnection for purposes of this subpart. The highest point of any MURS antenna must not be more than 60 feet above the ground or 20 feet above the highest point of the structure on which it is mounted.

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Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9AM to 5PM Eastern
Hours subject to change without notice and will be posted on the office voicemail.

For emergency service contact the President or your Regional Director for assistance.

Upcoming Board Meetings

All Meetings start at 9PM Eastern Time unless otherwise noted


- Sunday, September 9, 2012
- Sunday, October 7, 2012
- Sunday, November 4, 2012
- Sunday, December 9, 2012

Upcoming Board Workshops

All Meetings start at 9PM Eastern Time unless otherwise noted

- Thursday, September 20, 2012
- Thursday, October 18, 2012
- Thursday, November 15, 2012
- Thursday, December 20, 2012

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