EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM PLAN
For
FLORIDA OPERATIONAL AREA SEVEN

► Approved 10/12/1999
► Modified 3/5/2001 Change of Primary LP1 station from WMGF 107.7 FM to WPOZ 88.3
► Modified 3/27/03 adding CAE (Amber) code to AUTOMATIC RELAY effective 6/1/2003
► as of 6/1/2003 WLRQ will no longer be classified as a LP-1 station
► Modified 12/01/2005 to add additional monitoring options, modified TRW (Tropical Storm Warning) - Timed Relay (15 min); added TSA (Tsunami Watch) – Automatic relay, TSW (Tsunami Warning) - Automatic Relay; and general clarity to the plan
► Modified 3/06/07 Added support for Cable systems requesting alerts for counties adjacent to Area 7
► Modified 11/06/08 Changed monitoring options for receiving WPOZ
► Modified 12/04/09 Changed WDBO’s status from LP-1 to LP-2 as of January 1, 2010 and edited for continued clarity of the plan
► Modified 9/02/10 to add WHYZ, 91.1 Palm Coast, as an LP-1 option
► Modified 9/01/11 to add missed test/activation procedures and modify LP-1 / LP-2 monitoring options and presidential LP-1 input.

Operational Area Seven consists of the following Central Florida Counties: Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia. In addition, Area Seven also supports the following Central Florida Counties: Polk and Marion.

This document, as revised, is part of the State of Florida EAS Plan. For participating broadcasters and cable systems, the most recent copies of this Local EAS Operational Area 7 Plan and the latest FCC Handbook (http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/services/eas/handbooks.html) must be located at normal duty positions or EAS equipment locations when an operator is required to be on duty and be immediately available to staff responsible for authenticating messages and initiating actions. (FCC rule CFR 47 §11.15)

Acceptance of or participation in this plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Stations relaying EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have rebroadcast authority. The concept of the management of each broadcast station to exercise discretion regarding the broadcast of EAS emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC rules and Regulations. This document augments but does not replace Part 11 of the Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations.

Points of Contact

The eight County Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) or the County 911 Communication Centers (when the County EOC’s are not activated) will be the primary contacts to activate the Emergency Alert System. 911 centers will be the secondary contacts. It is noted that these contacts can be expanded for future use as needs grow.
Each County Emergency Operations Center has equipment installed to interface with the State Division of Emergency Management as well as accessing NOAA via the State’s Emergency Management Network (EMNet) System.

**Cooperative Emergency Information Feed**

During times of emergency, equipment at some County EOC’s is capable of being manned and operated full time in order to provide a cooperative feed to the broadcast community. When activated, personnel will be solicited from the general broadcast community to provide the feed. Unless otherwise specified in advance, all transmissions will be generic in nature relative to station ID’s and names since this will be a cooperative feed. Any EAS alerts sent from the County EOC’s during emergencies will be coordinated with the operator of the cooperative feed equipment before the transmission of these alerts during emergency situations, programming under current Federal Communications Commission regulations concerning transmission of Emergency Civil Defense information.

**Role of NOAA Weather Radio**

NOAA Weather Radio is a unifying link in the entire EAS plan. It is a pathway from which Federal, State, and Local alerts can be directed. In the event of disruption of normal communications channels to the participating broadcast stations in this plan, emergency information or protective action instructions can be disseminated using this communications system.

Operational Area Seven is served by four (4) different NOAA Weather Radio feeds (162.400 in Daytona Beach, 162.475 in Orlando, 162.500 in Sumterville and 162.550 in Melbourne.) Three (3) of which originate from the National Weather Service Office in Melbourne. Alerts for counties except Brevard and Flagler are simulcast on both the 162.400 and 162.475 MHZ frequencies. Alerts for Brevard County are sent via the 162.550 MHZ frequency. Alerts for Flagler County are sent via the 162.400 MHZ frequency. The forth and newest NOAA Weather Radio feed is from the Ruskin Office (162.500 Sumterville) which dissimulates alerts for Lake, Marion and Sumter Counties. WPOZ will monitor EMNet for weather activations and use NOAA Weather Radio as backup source.

Because of an agreement with the National Weather Service in Melbourne, Florida, WPOZ is initiating all weather activations for all Operational Area 7 counties. Stations that optionally monitor NOAA weather radio will receive duplicate alerts. Therefore, NOAA weather radio is not a primary, or, an optional EAS monitoring assignment in Florida Operational Area 7.
LP-1 and LP-2 Station Assignments

Several broadcast radio stations will play a very important role in the EAS Plan. Their functions in the EAS Plan are listed as follows:

1) WPOZ 88.3 FM (broadcasts with the trade name, “Z88.3”) will be the Primary Broadcast Station (LP-1) for Operational Area 7 with WPOZ being the local Primary Entry Point.

   Facilities located in Flagler and northeastern Volusia counties can pick up a rebroadcast of WPOZ 88.3 on WHYZ 91.1 FM. Facilities located in Lake and Sumter counties can pick up a rebroadcast of WPOZ 88.3 on WMYZ at 88.7 FM. The following list of translator stations also rebroadcast WPOZ and WMYZ:

   W245AZ – Translator, 96.9 FM, Leesburg*
   W250BH – Translator, 97.9 FM Melbourne / Palm Bay*
   W259AS -Translator, 99.7 FM Lady Lake / The Villages

2) WWKA-FM 92.3 FM (trade name, “K-92 FM”); WFLF-AM 540 AM, (trade name, “540 WFLA”) and WDBO 580 AM and WDBO-FM 96.5 FM (trade name “WDBO”) will be Local Primary-2 (LP-2) stations for Operational Area 7. In addition, WFLF-AM is designated by FEMA as the Primary Entry Point station for National activations in the State of Florida and it is recommended that WFLF-AM be monitored as an LP-2 if at all possible. NOAA weather radio is NOT to be used as any EAS monitoring source. Doing so will result in confusing duplicate activations and/or truncated broadcast messages!

EAS Monitoring Requirements

The minimum monitoring assignments for all Broadcast Radio, Television, and Cable Television Stations will be to monitor the LP-1 station, WPOZ, (or one of its satellite/translator facilities listed above), plus at least one of the LP-2 stations listed. Cable systems and Multiple System Operators (MSO), with headends located inside EAS Area 7 and subscribers located outside EAS Area 7, may notify the EAS Area 7 Chairman to request the additional counties, adjacent to Area 7, be added to the LP Stations’ FIPS Code list.

WPOZ FM (LP-1) will monitor WFLF-AM, WUCF-FM, WDBO-AM or FM and the State of Florida Emergency Management’s EMNet.

WDBO-AM/FM (LP-2) will monitor WPOZ-FM, WFLF-AM, and WWKA-FM.

WWKA-FM (LP-2) will monitor WPOZ-FM, WFLF-AM, and WDBO-AM or FM.

* LP-1 facilities WPOZ / WMYZ / WHYZ and 99.7 Lady Lake/The Villages have back up UPS power bolstered with long running diesel generators. 96.9 Leesburg and 97.9 Melbourne/Palm Bay, which at this revision, have UPS backup only. Therefore, stations should chose these sources understanding that they could fail with an extended power outage.
WFLF-AM (LP-2) will monitor WPOZ-FM, WDBO-AM or FM, and WWKA-FM. FEMA provided equipment for National activations is located at the WFLF transmitter site.

**Government EAS alert encoding**

The primary method by State Emergency Management or by County Emergency Management Offices to send EAS activations to WPOZ will be via EMNet. As required by FCC rules, the primary presidential entry point to WPOZ is from FEMA via monitoring WFLF-AM. The secondary presidential entry point is the “NPR squawk channel” via monitoring WUCF-FM.

**Backup Communications**

County Emergency Management offices can dispatch, upon need or request, volunteer radio operators to Broadcast Radio, Television Stations, and Cable Providers covered in this planning document. These volunteers can serve to maintain communication with the broadcast community if normal communications channels are disrupted. A VHF amateur antenna is installed on the studio tower at WPOZ for this purpose.

**Authentication**

If necessary, the receiving station may initiate a return telephone call to the Emergency Management agencies listed in this document to verify the request for EAS activation if the request was received via telephone.

**Weekly and Required Monthly Tests**

Weekly tests of the EAS shall be conducted by all stations on a random basis. Monthly tests shall be scheduled and initiated by WPOZ-FM for the Operational Area 7. For a current schedule, see postings on [http://www.sbe42.org](http://www.sbe42.org) or at the bottom of the page at [http://zradio.org/index/about/eas/](http://zradio.org/index/about/eas/).

By agreement with the State of Florida (letter on file at WPOZ), Operational Area 7 will follow the posted schedule which may not coincide with the state of Florida schedule for RMT’s. Therefore, any RMT’s sent by the State of Florida via the EMNet system is to be logged when received by WPOZ, but not forwarded.
**Equipment Malfunction**

If an EAS activation fails to forward on any station because of equipment malfunction, the operator should use best judgement as far as life safety is concerned. Normally, the best course of action would be to disseminate the emergency message on-air without the use of the EAS tones. If the emergency message deals with public safety, and understanding that it may take a few minutes to find complete copy, one could state the basic facts as in, "A tornado warning has just been issued for Orange county, complete details in a few minutes."

LP-2 stations are strongly cautioned that building and initiating their own EAS message when an active message or test has already been transmitted by WPOZ will cause a second, duplicate message to be broadcast in the region.

If a Required Monthly Test (RMT) has been initiated by WPOZ and any station cannot forward the RMT because of equipment malfunction, then the procedure is to log the incident and the reason for the failure. An LP-2 station in particular should never attempt to build and send a replacement RMT as that would create a second, duplicate RMT to be broadcast in the region.

**EAS Filter Codes**

The EAS Event Codes for Operational Area Seven are defined below, along with the recommended configuration for programming filters.

Codes are to be programmed into EAS equipment using the following criteria:

1. "Automatic Relay" mean immediate override and retransmission is requested,
2. "Timed Relay" mean a station can insert these activations as appropriate during a natural programming break within the time limit prescribed.
3. "Optional" mean the station can elect to activate or discard this alert,
4. "Log Only" means a transmission that is designated for entry and notation in the station log as may be required by FCC rules.

The codes listed in this plan were derived from the State of Florida Emergency Alert System Operational Plan, dated February 1997 and adopted by the Federal Communications Commission on April 2, 1997. New codes were adopted as of February 2002. For a complete list of codes, visit the FCC web site and download the FCC REPORT AND ORDER dated 2/26/02.
Operational Area 7 EAS codes and configuration for decoders

This is not the complete list of EAS codes, the ones below are those that Operational Area 7 utilizes in activations for our area and therefore should be programmed in your EAS equipment for all counties your facility covers.

**National Codes:** These are absolutely required by FCC rules to be broadcast immediately where noted and are often hardcoded to do so in most equipment:

- **EAN** Emergency Action Notification - Automatic Relay
- **EAT** Emergency Action Termination - Automatic Relay
- **NIC** National Information Center - Timed Relay (15 min)
- **NPT** National Periodic Test - Timed Relay (15 min)
- **RMT** Required Monthly Test - Timed Relay (60 min)
- **RWT** Required Weekly Test - Log Only (plus initiated weekly by your facility)

**State & Local Codes:** Below are the codes to be programmed in your unit for on-air relay. Please program these with all the counties that your facility covers. Do not program “All Florida” as this is not used or supported. The codes underlined and noted as “Automatic Relay” should be programmed to immediately interrupt and broadcast without any operator intervention. EAS equipment is requested to be left in “automatic” rather than “manual” at all times in order to help save lives. If one has questions about how to program their encoders, please contact the EAS chairman or the broadcast sub-chair for assistance.

ADR Administrative Message – Log only (Used for advising participating stations but not necessarily to relay on to the public, such as, but not limited to, the status of LP-1 or LP-2 stations, cancellation of AMBER alerts, etc.)

- **CAE** Child Abduction Emergency (Amber) - Automatic Relay (effective 6/1/03)
- **CDW** Civil Danger Warning - Optional
- **CEM** Civil Emergency Message - Automatic Relay
- **CFW** Coastal Flood Warning - Optional
- **CFA** Coastal Flood Watch - Optional
- **EVI** Evacuation Immediate - Automatic Relay
- **FRW** Fire Warning - Optional
- **FFW** Flash Flood Warning - Optional
- **FFA** Flash Flood Watch - Optional
- **HMW** Hazardous Materials Warning - Optional
- **HWW** High Wind Warning - Optional
- **HWA** High Wind Watch - Optional
- **HUW** Hurricane Warning - Timed Relay (15 min)
- **HUA** Hurricane Watch - Optional
- **LEW** Law Enforcement Warning - Optional
- **LAE** Local Area Emergency - Optional
NMN Network Message Notification - Optional
TOE 911 Telephone Outage Emergency - Timed Relay (15 min)
NUW Nuclear Power Plant Emergency - Optional
RHW Radiological Hazard Warning - Optional
**SVR** Severe Thunderstorm Warning – Optional (but strongly encouraged to pass as automatic relay, if at all possible, as lightning, straight line winds and hail can inflict as much property damage and potential loss of life as a tornado event.)
SVA Sever Thunderstorm Watch - Optional
SPW Shelter In Place Warning - Optional
SMW Special Marine Warning - Optional
**TOR** Tornado Warning - **Automatic Relay**
TOA Tornado Watch - Optional
**TRW** Tropical Storm Warning - Timed Relay (15 min) Change from Optional on revision, December 1, 2005
TRA Tropical Storm Watch – Optional
**TSA** Tsunami Watch – **Automatic Relay** (New on revision, December 2005.)
**TSW** Tsunami Warning - **Automatic Relay** (New on revision, December 2005.)

**LP1 & LP2 Points of Contact**

**WPOZ 88.3 FM / WMYZ 88.7 FM / WHYZ 91.1 FM (LP1)**
Jim Hoge, President
Dean O’Neal, Vice President & General Manager
WPOZ/WMYZ/WHYZ - Z88.3
1065 Rainer Drive
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-3847
(407) 869-8000 voice
(407) 869-0380 fax
GM@zradio.org

**WFLF 540 AM (LP2)**
Mike Sprysenski
Director of Engineering/IT
Clear Channel Radio Orlando
2500 Maitland Center Parkway Suite 401
Maitland, FL 32751-4122
(407) 916-7800 voice
(407) 916-7415 fax
mikesprysenski@clearchannel.com
The Local Emergency Communications Committee for Operational Area 7

The Local Emergency Communications Committee (LECC) directs all EAS Operations for Florida Operational Area 7 in accordance with FCC rules and the State of Florida Emergency EAS Plan. The Area 7 LECC is a standing committee of the Society Broadcast Engineers (SBE) Chapter 42. The chapter meets the first Thursday of most every month at the studios of WPOZ in Altamonte Springs, starting at 6:00 PM with a light supper. (Please see www.SBE42.org for exact details and a map.) Area 7 LECC business and EAS operation is a monthly agenda item at these meetings. Anyone who has business with the committee/chapter is most welcome and encouraged to attend. Also, one may also contact the LECC Chairman or any of the appropriate subcommittee chairs at anytime. Their contact information is below:

Area 7 LECC Chairman:
Jim Hoge, President
WPOZ 88.3 FM
1065 Rainer Drive
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-3847
(407) 869-8000 voice  (407) 869-0380 fax
GM@zradio.org

Area 7 LECC Broadcaster and Cable Subcommittee Chair:
Dean O’Neal, Vice President & General Manager
WPOZ 88.3 FM
1065 Rainer Drive
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-3847
(407) 869-8000 voice  (407) 869-0380 fax
GM@zradio.org

LP1 & LP2 Points of Contact (Cont)

WDBO-AM/FM (LP2) and WWKA-FM 92.3 (LP2)
Brian Williston, Chief Engineer
Cox Radio Orlando
4192 N. John Young Parkway
Orlando, FL 32840
(407) 298-9292
(407) 422-5883 fax
(407) 297-6397 (24/7 Newsroom)
(407) 290-1076 (fax 24/7 Newsroom)
Brian.Williston@coxinc.com
Brian's cell: 407-403-1143
The Local Emergency Communications Committee for Operational Area 7 (Cont)

Area 7 LECC Emergency Management Subcommittee Chair:
Keith Kotch, Communications - Warning Coordinator
Orange County Fire Rescue Department
Office of Emergency Management
6590 Amory Court
Winter Park, FL 32792
(407) 836-9151 desk   (407) 836-9147 fax
keith.kotch@ocfl.net

Area 7 LECC National Weather Service Subcommittee Chair:
Scott M.Spratt, Warning Coordination Meteorologist
National Weather Service (NOAA)
421 Croton Road
Melbourne, FL 32935
(321) 255-0212 (office)
scott.spratt@noaa.gov

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