

**Local Memorandum of Understanding
Between the**

Amateur Radio Emergency Service ®

a voluntary emergency and public service communications organization sponsored by the
American Radio Relay League, Inc.

and

(other organization's name)

Introduction

The (other organization's name) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) group, responsible for (area of jurisdiction) and representing public-service oriented radio amateurs with this area, have agreed to enter into these local agreements which have formed the basis for this memorandum.

I. Purpose

This agreement between the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service group and (organization) establishes a framework of cooperation and a close working relationship with volunteer radio amateurs organized under the authority of the ARRL Emergency Coordinator and officials of the (organization).

It is intended through joint cooperation of the local resources available to both signees, the public will best be served under disaster, emergency or public-service related situations.

This document is not meant to be considered legally binding; it is a statement of cooperation between the two parties.

II. Organization

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service consists of federally licensed radio amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communication duty in the public service when disaster strikes pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Rule 97.1 (a) which states that a "fundamental purpose" of the Amateur Radio Service is: "Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications."

The American Radio Relay League, Inc, comprising more than 156,000 radio amateurs in the U.S. sponsors the ARRL Field Organization. More than 8,900 amateurs are registered as members of this national field organization which is divided into 71 geographical sections. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is one segment of the ARRL's commitment to service the public in time of need. Local ARES groups are established components within ARES. "ARES" and "Amateur Radio Emergency Service" are registered service marks of the American Radio Relay League, Incorporated, and are used by permission.

The ARRL (section name) Section leadership within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is exercised by the Section Emergency Coordinator (appointed by the elected ARRL Section Manager) with the Section Emergency Coordinator appointing District Emergency Coordinators and Emergency Coordinators within the section.

The local Emergency Coordinator is the key person within the ARRL Field Organization to provide an ARES response in a given locale.

The (organization's name) is organized in the following manner:
(insert organizational description)

III. Recognition

The (organization's name) recognizes that the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is the ARRL sponsored emergency/public service oriented communications organization. ARES serves more than 35,000 licensed U.S. radio amateurs nationwide and can be of valuable assistance in providing critical communications during emergencies and disasters when normal lines of communication are disrupted.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service recognizes that (organization's name)

(insert background and purpose of other organization).

IV. Principles of Cooperation

So that communications resources of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service may be coordinated and utilized to the fullest advantage during disasters, emergencies and public-service related situations, and to the extent permitted or required by law and regulation, the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service group and the (organization's name) have agreed that each organization will:

1. Encourage on-going liaison with the other, urging members of both organizations to develop increasingly effective communications and cooperation.

2. Work with each other for developing emergency plans, training exercises, and a heightened state of preparedness.
3. Work with each other in times of disaster or emergency to meet the needs of the public.
4. Each party will, at the same time, work within its own lines of authority and respect the lines of authority of the other.
5. Distribute copies of and publicize this agreement through channels to its own members, and to other organizations, both public and private, which may have an active interest in disaster relief.
6. Establish a mutually acceptable means of identification for volunteers under this agreement which is honored by local law enforcement agencies during disasters and emergencies.
7. Understand that either signee to this document may have similar local agreements with other disaster assistance-related agencies/organizations.

V. Implementation

This memorandum shall take effect upon its signing by authorized representatives of the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service group (and their ARRL Section Manager) and representatives of the (organization's name).

This memorandum may be amended by mutual agreement of both parties, and it is understood by both parties that at any time this Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by written notification from either party to the other.

Six months prior to termination, the parties shall meet to review the progress and success of the MOU and determine whether it shall be extended for an additional five years. In no event shall any single extension of this MOU be for a term exceeding five years.

VI. Miscellaneous

This Statement of Understanding does not create a partnership or a joint venture, and neither party has the authority to bind the other.

Date _____
_____ Title

Date _____
_____ Title

Date _____
ARRL Emergency Coordinator

Date _____
ARRL District Emergency Coordinator

Date _____
ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator

Date _____
ARRL Section Manager (Required for
Recognition by ARRL Field Organization)