

GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NATHAN DEAL
GOVERNOR



GEMA

CHARLEY ENGLISH
DIRECTOR

July 10, 2013

Rusty Welsh
P. O. Box 204266
Martinez, GA 30917

Rusty:

I wanted to thank you for all of the great technical support you provide to the Georgia State Patrol by assisting with locating the source of radio interference that was occurring during the weekend of July 6 and 7. The problem was initially reported during the first half of the day on July 6 and was thought to only be affecting primary communications for Troop E (Post 8/Madison, Post 17/Washington, Post 25/Grovetown, Post 33/Milledgeville and Post 46/Monroe). Throughout the evening the problem was discovered to be affecting posts within Troops E and F ranging from Augusta to Grovetown and southward to Sylvania and Statesboro. Following a phone call to you to inquire about the ability for local amateur radio operators to perform direction finding operations, you and the other Columbia County team members worked throughout the night and the following day to ensure the source was located and identified as a city/county system located in South Carolina.

We are very grateful to have you and all of the other great partners to support situations like this at a moment's notice. We often talk about how important relationship building is within the public safety response community so that we're not left trying to figure out who to depend on when agency resources are exhausted and additional help is needed. The ability for me to make one phone call have a cadre of personnel willing to deploy with the necessary equipment to identify the source of the interference shows that the relationships we've built here in Georgia truly pays off when we become dependent on others. As a token of our appreciation I've include a Georgia Communication Field Operations Guide and a Georgia Emergency Management/Homeland Security challenge coin.

Thank you again let me know if you ever need assistance from GEMA.

Sincerely,

Nick Brown
Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
Homeland Security Division

nsb
Enclosures

cc: SFC Kevin Rexroat, Acting Director of Communications
Georgia State Patrol