



CALLSIGN

Ohio Appreciates Professional Communications Operations

November 2025

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President's Message By OHIO APCO President Cody Post

The past three months have been an incredibly active time for 9-1-1 in Ohio, and I want to share several important updates with you.

Wireless 9-1-1 Funding Increase

Counties should now be seeing an increase in their monthly wireless 9-1-1 fund distributions as the new **\$0.60 surcharge** has officially taken effect. This increase is a major step toward strengthening the financial stability of PSAP operations statewide.

PSAP Operations Rule Updates

The Ohio **PSAP Operations Subcommittee** has completed its review and approved updates to the Ohio PSAP OPS rules. These proposed rules have been forwarded to the State 9-1-1 Steering Committee and are expected to be adopted and advanced into the **JCARR process in January 2026**. This marks a significant milestone in modernizing our statewide operational framework.

New Wireless Fund Distribution Formula

The Subcommittee has also approved a **new distribution formula** to replace the 2013 model. The updated formula incorporates **land area, population, and a guaranteed minimum distribution**, ensuring that every county receives additional wireless 9-1-1 funding. This proposal will be reviewed by the State 9-1-1 Steering Committee at its January meeting.

NENA National Conference – Coming to Columbus

This summer, the **National NENA Conference** is coming to Columbus! This is an incredible opportunity for Ohio to showcase the strength, professionalism, and innovation of our 9-1-1 community. We will be calling on Ohio's PSAP leaders, telecommunicators, and partners to volunteer and help make this a memorable experience for colleagues from across the country.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Ohio's 9-1-1 system, and for the work you do every day to keep our communities safe.

Cody R. Post, ENP, RPL

November Chapter Events

Ohio APCO/Ohio NENA Combined Membership Meeting

Wednesday Nov. 19th, 2025

Ohio Department of Administrative Services

4200 Service Rd.

Columbus, OH. 43228

Meeting 10:00

Go to Pg.4 for remote access information

APCO – INTERNATIONAL

President

Capt. Jack Varnado, RPL
911 Director
Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office Communications Division
Livingston, LA
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Board of Directors- North Central Region

Jessica Loos
Lincoln Emergency Comm. Center
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B. Fred Cummings, RPL
Delaware Co. Emergency Comm. Center
fcummings@co.delaware.in.us

Executive Council Representative

Johnna Gonzalez-Sells
Regional Communications Coordinator
Franklin County EMA & HS
JohnnaSells@franklincountyohio.gov

Ohio APCO Executive Committee

President

Cody Post
cpost@akronohio.gov

Immediate Past President

Cheryl Pratt
clpratt@dps.ohio.gov

Past President

Johnna Gonzalez-Sells
Johnnasells@franklincountyohio.gov

1st Vice President

Erica Walsh
elwalsh@columbus.gov

2nd Vice President

Nick DiCicco
elwalsh@columbus.gov

Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Banks
mbanks@summitoh.net

Chapter Executive Council Delegate

Johnna Gonzalez-Sells
johnnasells@franklincountyohio.gov

Chapter Commercial Advisors

Mark Culbertson
mark.culbertson@adsrecorders.com

Steve Zitney
szitney@wsi-tech.com

Appointed Executive Committee Positions

Lydia Frey
lfrey@marion.oh.us

Adrienne Sheffer
ajsheffer@dps.ohio.gov

Ohio APCO - Standing Committees/Chairs

Constitution and By Laws Committee

2nd V.P. Erica Walsh
elwalsh@columbus.gov

Training

Lydia Frey, Chair
lfrey@co.marion.oh.us

Nominating

Johnna Gonzalez-Sells, Chair
JohnnaSells@franklincountyohio.gov

Mike Banks
mbanks@summitoh.net

Lydia Frey
lfrey@co.marion.oh.us

Satoru Persons
Persons.4@dps.ohio-state.edu

Awards & Scholarship

Adrienne Sheffer
ajsheffer@dps.ohio.gov

Legislative

Chapter Legislative Liaison
Johnna Gonzalez-Sells
JohnnaSells@franklincountyohio.gov

Frequency Advisory

Bob Bill, Chair
Bob.bill@das.ohio.gov

911 & Communications Center Mgt. Committee

Andrew Knapp, Co-Chair
andrew.knapp@hamilton-co.org

Nick DiCicco, Co-Chair
Nick.dicicco@cvgdispatch.com

TERT

Nick DiCicco, Co-Chair
Nick.dicicco@cvgdispatch.com

Johnna Gonzalez-Sells, Co-Chair
JohnnaSells@franklincountyohio.gov

Additional Designations

Joint Conference Committee – Erica Walsh
elwalsh@columbus.gov

911 Steering Committee – Adrienne Sheffer
ajsheffer@dps.ohio.gov

PSAP Operations Subcommittee – Matt Franke
mfranke@butlersheriff.org

Ohio ESI Net PSAP Subcommittee Representative

Johnna Gonzalez-Sells
JohnnaSells@franklincountyohio.gov

Ohio ESI Net Technical Subcommittee Representative

Johnna Gonzalez-Sells
JohnnaSells@franklincountyohio.gov

SIEC Representative - Johnna Gonzalez-Sells

JohnnaSells@franklincountyohio.gov

September 10th, 2025

Welcome Remarks – Cody Post

The meeting began at 10am in conjunction with the Ohio Gold Star Awards at Villa Milano Secretary / Treasurers Report

The previous meeting minutes were approved on a motion made by Cheryl and seconded by Lisa. The motion was to dispense with the reading of the previous minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

The APCO treasurer's report was presented by Mike Banks: APCO checking account current balance is \$8,916.39. Gold Star Conference checking current balance is \$33,835. Money market account is \$84,340.91. The full chapter treasurer's report will be posted online later today.

Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office - Patrick Brandt

Hardin County went live yesterday. We now have 11 counties completely live on the next-gen core services. The rules are being reviewed through the PSAP Ops Subcommittee. The rate went to 60 cents, and it goes into effect September 30th.

APCO AFC – Bob Bill, Devan Phillis

Make sure your radios are getting authenticated for your radio authentication. They will turn your radios off. It has been extended, but make sure you get that done. And make sure that if you renew your frequency licenses, it's going to a generic email, so everybody gets it, and it doesn't go to a retired person with an invalid email.

**Executive Council & Legislative –
Johnna Gonzalez Sells**

Membership sits at 40,537 APCO members. We crossed over 40,000 APCO members at Baltimore this year, so that was an incredible milestone. In early June, APCO joined with 911 and public safety organizations in a letter to members of the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee, urging for.



Thanks!
**To our sponsors past, present
and future.**

Thank you to the May lunch sponsor:

DATAMARK Technology

The November meeting is sponsored by:



For sponsorship opportunities at future meetings, please contact Mark Culbertson.

Mark.culbertson@adsrecorders.com

MARCS – Larry McCoy

MARCS update was presented by Larry McCoy: The portal is up now, so when you guys go to activate radio IDs, you will be, directed to John Upchurch who will help you get onboarded onto the portal and you will be able to activate and deactivate your radios, and your radio IDs. They are doing a soft rollout at this point because they don't want all 2,500 plus agencies coming on at one time.

Good of the Order

We are going to have a volunteer effort for a NENA National in Columbus. We will need about 100-115 volunteers. You will be hearing more about this in November.

The AI Summit is October 7th-8th in Orlando, Florida.

The Impact Awards will take place in April 2026 at the National Press Club in D.C. (Continued Next Pg.)

APCO National will be in San Antonio, Texas from August 2nd through the 5th.

Adjournment:

Cheryl Pratt made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Patrick Brandt. Meeting adjourned at 1015hrs.



For any questions regarding Ohio Gold Star please contact Chairman Scott Brown scott.brown@hamiltoncountyohio.gov.

For Remote Access To The November Joint Meeting

Topic: Ohio APCO

Time: Nov 19, 2025 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

zoom.us/j/...

Meeting ID: 944 0055 9020

Passcode: 109827

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