EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2007-42

I, Brad Henry, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Sections 1 and 2 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution and the Oklahoma Homeland Security Act, 74 O.S. §§ 51, et seq., hereby direct and order as follows:

The lack of adequate interoperable communications for first responders at all levels has been a problem for many years. Significant advances have been made in interoperable communications over the past five years. Under my authority, the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security (OKOHS) has made a number of investments in improving interoperable communications through funding from the United States Department of Homeland Security. To date over $32 million in federal funds have been dedicated to increasing interoperable communications.

OKOHS is directed to continue their efforts to improve interoperable communications in the state of Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Homeland Security Director and OKOHS shall continue to oversee the implementation of any and all initiatives or efforts mandated by the United States Department of Homeland Security and its subdivisions. OKOHS shall remain the State Administering Agency for all federal funds related to homeland security, including the Public Safety Interoperable Communications grant program. OKOHS is further directed to oversee the development and implementation of a Statewide Interoperable Communications Plan pursuant to federal requirements.

Recognizing the need for a state level strategy for communications, the Oklahoma Legislature appropriated funding to the Department of Public Safety for a study of state level communications capabilities and needs. OKOHS, in consultation with the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety, is directed to develop and oversee the state study. All state agencies, boards and commissions are directed to cooperate with the OKOHS in the study and development of state interoperable communications.
This Executive Order shall be distributed to all Cabinet and the Oklahoma Homeland Security Director for immediate implementation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 10th day of October, 2007.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

BRAD HENRY

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

Acting Assistant