



Work Group Update

Communications Unit Work Group



Role of the Work Group



- The Communications Unit Work Group (COMU WG) is a diverse group of over seventy public safety and related personnel with extensive experience in public safety communications.
- The group serves as subject-matter experts to the Michigan Public Safety Communications Interoperability Board (MPSCIB).



Members



- Co-Chair Nick Carpenter
System Support Specialist, Grand Traverse 911
- Co-Chair Ray Hasil
Director, Mason-Oceana 911
- 73 members
 - Local, county, regional, state and federal agency membership
 - Diverse mix of personnel with varying expertise in many types of radio, data and cybersecure public safety and related communications





Tasks, Activities & Deliverables

- 14 separate objectives in the 2023 Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP).
- The COMU has completed and continues to maintain 12 of 14 SCIP objectives in 2025.
- There is much crossover with other Work Groups and the COMU receives monthly updates from most of the other MPSCIB Work Groups.





Tasks, Activities & Deliverables

- Creation of a COMU instructor kit, including dedicated instructor laptop and portable power banks.
- Two INTD courses were held in 2025: April in Eaton, October in Mashall.



Meeting/Schedule



- The COMU meets online 9 months of each year.
 - January through April
 - June through October
- The COMU meets in-person once each year for a full-day meeting on the Monday before the Great Lakes Homeland Security Training Conference & Expo at Devos Place in Grand Rapids.
- The COMU 2026 annual in-person meeting will be on Monday, May 4, 2026 at Devos Place in Grand Rapids.





2026 Strategic Efforts

- Michigan e-FOG major update (federal shutdown of “public safety library” app).
- Conduct at least 2 state-sponsored INTD courses in 2026 (April 27 – May 1 in Genessee, and a fall class in the Northern region).
- Continue to identify alternative sources for funding COMU courses.
- Work to provide opportunities for:
 - Trainees to complete Position Task Books
 - State-recognized personnel to re-certify every 3 years





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michigan.gov/mpscs/interoperability-board/comu-wg

