Aaron Duncan
Fire Chief & Director of Emergency Services

Kern County Emergency Operations Center
2601 Panorama Drive, Building B• Bakersfield, CA 93306 • www.kerncountyfire.org
Telephone 661-873-2602 • FAX 661-873-2699

November 10, 2026

Board of Supervisors
Kern County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93301

PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) FOR ACCESS AND USE OF THE INTEGRATED PUBLIC ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEM (IPAWS)
Fiscal Impact: None

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers local government the opportunity to enhance public alert and warning capabilities through the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).

On January 14, 2018, California Senate Bill 833 was amended to direct the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to release alert and warning guidance to ensure a consistent capability and protocol throughout the state. Within the guidance released by CalOES is a requirement for local government to develop a local Alert and Warning Plan that defines authorized users, establishes standards to disseminate alerts and warnings, establishes training and testing protocol and incorporates the utilization of IPAWS.

Locally, interoperability to IPAWS will be achieved through the County's existing telephone alert and warning system contract as provided by Everbridge, which is a FEMA-approved third-party provider. The IPAWS capabilities would be in addition to the County's existing telephone emergency alert system, locally branded ReadyKern, and the Emergency Alert System (EAS), which disseminates alerts through local television and radio media broadcasters.

IPAWS is provided by FEMA at no additional cost to eligible alerting authorities.

IPAWS provides the County with capability to issue alerts and warnings via wireless emergency alerts (WEA), which are emergency text messages broadcast from cellular towers in the designated alert area to any WEA-enabled mobile device. All major U.S. cell phone carriers participate in WEA on a voluntary basis, but not all handsets currently available are WEA-capable. The WEA system is an opt-out system, meaning all users who do not disable the capability on their phone will receive WEA alerts at no cost.

On November 7, 2023, your board approved the request for authorization to apply for County access to use FEMA's IPAWS and approved IPAWS implementation through an established FEMA Memorandum of Agreement.

County Counsel has reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement and approves as to form.

Therefore, it is RECOMMENDED that your Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the implementation of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) and authorize the Fire Chief to sign all documents as necessary, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel.

Sincerely,

Aaron Duncan
Fire Chief & Director of Emergency Services

Memorandum of Agreement between the Kern County Fire Department

and the

Federal Emergency Management Agency Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Program Management Office

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Regarding the use of: Kern County Fire Department Interoperable System(s) and IPAWS OPEN Platform for Emergency Networks (IPAWS-OPEN)

Version 4.8

08/28/2026

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Document Change History

Version	Date	Author	Description
4.0	06/13/2019	Al Kenyon	Updated COG MOA with stakeholders' input
4.1	06/13/2019	Al Kenyon	Delete CISO and CIO signature blocks per CIO Corrected IPAWS Suite #, Zipcode
4.2	6/20/2019	Gustavo Barbet Jr	Fixed grammatical errors and made minor wording changes throughout document
4.3	9/6/2019	Mark Lucero	Changes to Section 3.0 from paragraph to bullet format
4.4	1/31/2020	Gustavo Barbet Jr	Updated FEMA CISO POC
4.5	6/30/2020	Gustavo Barbet Jr	Updated FEMA CISO POC
4.6	10/15/2020	Mark Lucero, Al Kenyon, Justin Singer	Authority Section, Version History Page, and Footer Updates
4.7	5/24/21	Mark Lucero	Update AWS Cloud, IPAWS-OPEN Tech Lead
4.8	4/26/2022	Gustavo Barbet Jr	Updated FEMA CISO POC

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

1.0 SUPERSEDES: CA Kern County Fire Department signed 11/17/2023

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish a management agreement between the Kern County Fire Department hereinafter referred to as the Collaborative Operating Group (COG), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) IPAWS Program regarding the utilization and security of Kern County Fire Department Interoperable System(s) (as shown in Appendix A), which interoperate with the IPAWS-Open Platform for Emergency Networks (IPAWS-OPEN). The expected benefit is to enable information interoperability across emergency response organizations and systems as intended by the FEMA IPAWS Program.

This agreement will govern the relationship between the Collaborative Operating Group and FEMA, including designated managerial and technical staff and system users associated with the aforementioned COG. As indicated within the terms of this agreement, both parties agree to allow system interoperability through the use of SOAP over HTTPS via the public internet. Under this agreement, no direct or networked connection using VPN (or equivalent technology) between the systems named in Appendix A and IPAWS-OPEN is allowed. In the event a direct connection is required, an Interconnection Security Agreement must be executed.

3.0 AUTHORITY

This agreement is authorized under the following authorities and regulations:

- Section 706 of 47 U.S.C. 666, The War Powers Act: Provides for Presidential Access to commercial communications during "a state of public peril or disaster or other national emergency"
- Public Law 93-288, The Stafford Act. Sec. 202. Disaster Warning: Directs FEMA to provide technical assistance to State and local governments to ensure that timely and effectively disaster warning is provided
- Public Law 114-143, The IPAWS Modernization Act: Enacts to law the policy statement and similar requirements found in Executive Order 14307
- Sec. 202. Disaster Warning: Directs FEMA to provide technical assistance to State and local governments to ensure that timely and effectively disaster warning is provided
- Executive Order 13407 of June 26, 2006, Public Alert and Warning System: Established as policy the requirement for the United State to have an effective, reliable, integrated, flexible, and comprehensive system to alert and warn the American people
- 47 CFR Part 10, Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA): Provide for alert and warning to devices on wireless carrier networks
- 47 CFR Part 11, Emergency Alert System (EAS): Provide for alert and warning over TV and radio broadcast

4.0 BACKGROUND

It is the intent of both parties to this agreement to establish and utilize a standardized web based application interface (as defined by the IPAWS-OPEN Web Service Interface Design Guidance) between the information technology (IT) systems shown below to facilitate the exchange of emergency messages within the production environment. The testing of the interoperability of these systems has been performed through the use of FEMA's Test and Development environment to ensure the transference and receipt of emergency messages using approved messaging standards. The interoperability between these systems is supported by the use of SOAP over HTTPS via the public internet.

5.0 COMMUNICATIONS

Frequent formal communications are essential to ensure the successful management and operation of system interoperability. Both parties agree to maintain open lines of communication between designated staff (as indicated in Appendix B) at both the managerial and technical levels. All communications described herein must be conducted in writing and may be disseminated by electronic means unless otherwise noted.

The owners of the respective systems agree to designate and provide contact information for technical leads for their respective systems, and to facilitate direct contacts between technical leads to support the management and operation of system interoperability. To safeguard the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the systems and the data they store, process, and transmit, both parties agree to provide notice of specific events within the timeframes indicated below:

- **Security Incidents:** Technical, administrative and/or help desk staff will immediately notify their designated counterparts by telephone or e-mail when a security incident(s) is detected and/or a violation of the Rules of Behavior (see Appendix C) has been identified. Both parties agree to make the appropriate technical and administrative individuals available for all necessary inquiries and/or investigations. Containment and/or resolution procedures will be documented by the identifying party and after-action reports generated and submitted to the system owner and/or designated security officials within five (5) business days after detection of the incident(s).

- **Disasters and Other Contingencies:** The FEMA IPAWS Program Office will notify the COG by telephone, e-mail or other acceptable means in the event of a disaster or other contingency that disrupts the normal operation of IPAWS-OPEN.

- **System Interconnections:** This MOA is intended for systems interoperating with IPAWS-OPEN using SOAP over HTTPS via the public Internet. If in the future, an interconnection (i.e. dedicated system-to-system connection) is required to IPAWS-OPEN, this MOA must be updated and an Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) must be executed. If a change in status from interoperating to interconnected system is required, the initiating party will notify the other party at least 3 months before the planned interconnection is to be in place.

- **Discontinuation of Use:** In the event the use of IPAWS-OPEN is no longer required, the COG agrees to immediately notify, in writing, the FEMA IPAWS Program Office at which time the COGID and associated access credentials will be deactivated.

- **Personnel Changes:** Both parties agree to provide notification of changes to their respective system owner or technical lead. In addition, both parties will provide notification of any changes in the point of contact information provided in Appendix B. All relevant personnel changes and changes to contact information must be provided within 5 business days of the change.

6.0 TYPE OF INTERCONNECTIVITY

Both parties agree that the COG will utilize only the assigned COGID, associated credentials and digital certificates provided by the FEMA IPAWS Program Office to support interoperability between the system(s) listed in Appendix A and IPAWS-OPEN. In addition, all interoperable systems must be configured to interface with IPAWS-OPEN over the public Internet using only approved web service standards and associated requirements. A listing of approved web service standards and supporting requirements can be obtained from the IPAWS-OPEN Web Service Interface Design Guidance document.

In the event, a dedicated connection is required, both parties will agree to negotiate and execute an Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) as required per Department of Homeland Security (DHS) policy which must be signed by all required parties before the interconnection is activated. Proposed changes to either system that affect system interoperability will be reviewed and evaluated to determine the potential impact. If the proposed changes impact the agreed upon terms, the MOA will be renegotiated and executed before changes are implemented.

7.0 SECURITY

To ensure the joint security of the systems and the message data they store, process, and transmit, both parties agree to adhere to and enforce the Rules of Behavior (as specified in Appendix C). In addition, both parties agree to the following:

- Ensure authorized users accessing the interoperable system(s) receive, agree to abide by and sign (electronically or in paper form) the IPAWS-OPEN Rules of Behavior as specified in Appendix C. Each jurisdiction is responsible for keeping the signed Rules of Behavior on file or stored electronically for each system user.

- Utilize FEMA approved PKI certificates to digitally sign messages as they are transported over the public Internet.
- Certify that its respective system is designed, managed and operated in compliance with all relevant federal laws, regulations, and policies.
- Document and maintain jurisdictional and/or system specific security policies and procedures and produce such documentation in response to official inquiries and/or requests.
- Provide physical security and system environmental safeguards for devices supporting system interoperability with IPAWS-OPEN.
- Ensure physical and logical access to the respective systems as well as knowledge of the COGID and associated access criteria are only granted to properly vetted and approved entities or individuals.
- Where applicable, ensure that only individuals who have successfully completed FEMA-required training can utilize the interoperable systems to issue alerts and warnings intended for distribution to the public.
- Where applicable, document and maintain records of successful completion of FEMA-required training and produce such documentation in response to official inquiries and/or requests.

8.0 PROFICIENCY DEMONSTRATION

Once enabled, each COG operating under this agreement must demonstrate their ability to compose and send a message through the IPAWS-OPEN system at regular intervals. Such demonstration must be performed on a monthly basis through generation of a message successfully sent through the IPAWS-OPEN Training and Demonstration environment.

9.0 ASSOCIATED SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

The COG will need to select a software package which will allow the COG to properly populate a Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) message which complies with both the *OASIS Common Alerting Protocol Version 1.2* and the *OASIS Common Alerting Protocol, v. 1.2 USA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Profile Version 1.0*. With respect to the software and the software vendor selected FEMA expects the selected software to provide the following minimum critical capabilities and services:

- Permissions:
  - The ability to assign and manage user permissions; and
  - The ability to retrieve and view IPAWS Alerting Permissions
- Proficiency:
  - The provision of vendor support, to include user training, and around the clock technical support; and
  - The ability to submit both live and test digital certificates, with clear, easily identifiable information that indicates the environment to which the software is pointed (Live or Test)
- User Interface:
  - The provision of an intuitive user interface, to include help menus; and
  - The ability to notify the user of digital certificate expiration; and
  - The ability to constrain event types and geocodes to user permissions; and
  - The ability to send one alert to multiple channels; and
  - The provision of displays that show required fields based on selected channel; and
  - The ability to pre-populate fields to the greatest extent possible; and
  - The ability to support templates; and
  - The ability to create a polygon or circle, of less than 100 nodes; and

- The ability to update or cancel an alert, without having to reenter all of the data; and
- The ability to alert the end user if a software license has expired; and
- Clear explanations if alert information is case sensitive when entered

- Confirmation and Error Checking:
  - The ability to pre-check an alert message for errors, prior to sending; and
  - The ability to create free-form 90-character WEA text, while preventing prohibited characters; and
  - The provision to IPAWS of alert status codes for any sent alert, with a clear definition of whether the codes are advice codes or error codes, along with the meaning of those codes; and
  - The provision of user confirmation of connectivity to IPAWS; and
  - The ability for users to see alert history and/or logs

10.0 COST CONSIDERATIONS

This agreement does not authorize financial expenditures by the COG on behalf of FEMA. The FEMA IPAWS Program is responsible for the costs associated with developing, operating and maintaining the availability of the IPAWS-OPEN system. The COG is responsible for all costs related to providing their users with access to IPAWS-OPEN via the public Internet. These costs may include hardware, software, monthly Internet charges, completion of security awareness training and other related jurisdictional costs.

11.0 PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

Each Party agrees and acknowledges that nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as giving a party any proprietary rights in or to the intellectual property of the other party. Each Party further agrees that nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating or granting to a party any implied or express license in or to the intellectual property of the other party.

12.0 TIMELINE

This agreement will remain in effect based on the life of the Authority to Operate (ATO) for IPAWS-OPEN or a maximum of three (3) years after the last date on either signature in the signature block below. Upon expiration of the IPAWS-OPEN ATO or after three (3) years (whichever comes first), this agreement will expire without further action and system access privileges will be revoked. If the parties wish to extend this agreement, they may do so by reviewing, updating, and reauthorizing this agreement. This agreement supersedes all earlier agreements, which should be referenced above by title and date. If one or both of the parties wish to terminate this agreement prematurely, they may do so upon 30 days' advanced notice or in the event of a security incident that necessitates an immediate response. This agreement may be suspended by FEMA for failure to perform the Proficiency Demonstration for two consecutive months. A suspended COG may be reinstated upon a completion of a successful Proficiency Demonstration.

SIGNATORY AUTHORITY

I agree to the terms of this Memorandum of Agreement. Noncompliance on the part of either organization or its users or contractors concerning the policies, standards, and procedures explained herein may result in the immediate termination of this agreement.

Kern County Fire Department Official
Name: Aaron Duncan
Title: Fire Chief/Director of Emergency Services

(Signature Date)

Kern County Fire Department
2601 Panorama Drive
Bakersfield
CA-93308

Federal Emergency Management Agency
IPAWS-OPEN System Owner
Name: Al Kenyon
Title: IPAWS Customer Support Branch Chief

(Signature Date)

Attn: IPAWS-OPEN System Owner, Suite 5NW-0309
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20472-3153

Appendix A

Listing of Interoperable Systems

The FEMA IPAWS Program recognizes that Emergency Management organizations may utilize multiple tools to facilitate the emergency management process. As a result, jurisdictions may need to interoperate with IPAWS-OPEN using more than one system. In order to comply with DHS policy, all systems interoperating with IPAWS-OPEN must be documented and supported by a Memorandum of Agreement. As a result, this appendix must be completed to identify all systems associated with the COG and used for interoperating with IPAWS-OPEN. This Appendix must be amended as applicable systems are added or removed from operations.

- **IPAWS-OPEN**

Function:	IPAWS-OPEN is the backbone system that structures the alert and distributes the message from one interoperating and/or interconnected system (message sender) to another interoperating and/or interconnected system (message recipient).
Location:	AWS GovCloud (US) East Region, West Region
Description of data, including sensitivity or classification level:	Messaging data is considered Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) information and does not contain Personally Identifiable Information (PII), Financial data, Law Enforcement Sensitive Information or classified information. Each message that flows through the IPAWS-OPEN system will be associated to a specifically assigned system User ID and COGID as captured within the message elements. This information will be retained in system logs.

The systems listed below are managed and operated by the COG and are subject to the terms defined within the Memorandum of Agreement including the Rules of Behavior in Appendix C. Each interoperable system will be assigned unique authentication credentials, which must be protected by the COG. In the event these credentials are compromised, the COG is expected to immediately contact the FEMA IPAWS Program Management Office. The systems listed below are only allowed to interoperate with IPAWS-OPEN based on the criteria set forth within the IPAWS-OPEN Web Service Interface Design Guidance.

Everbridge

Function	Location	Description of data, including sensitivity or classification level
Everbridge provides critical information to residents during emergencies by sending public alerts for major events for dissemination via WEA/CMAS, EAS, NWEM and Public Feed.	Amazon West Northern CA; Amazon East Ashburn VA	Data is comprised of emergency public alert messages

**Add additional tables as needed.*

Appendix B

COG Point of Contact Information

Designated COG Primary Point of Contact:

Name: Jolene Murillo

Title: Assistant Emergency Services Manager

Business Email Address: jmurillo@kerncountyfire.org

Primary Phone Number: 661-873-2603

Alternate Phone Number:

Organization: Kern County Fire Department

Mailing Address: 2601 PANORAMA BLDG 2

BAKERSFIELD, CA, 93306

Designated Alternate Point of Contact:

Name: Brett Loomis

Title: Emergency Services Manager

Business Email Address: bloomis@kerncountyfire.org

Primary Phone Number: 6618732604

Alternate Phone Number:

Organization: CA Kern County Fire Department

Mailing Address:

, ,

Designated Technical Point of Contact:

Name: Michael Clark

Title: Technology Services Manager

Business Email Address: mclark@kerncountyfire.org

Primary Phone Number: 661-391-7195

Alternate Phone Number:

Organization: Kern County Fire Department

Mailing Address: 5642 Victor St

Bakersfield ,CA, 93308

FEMA: Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Open Platform for Emergency Networks (IPAWS-OPEN)

Contact Name	Contact Number	Email Address	Summary of System Responsibilities
Charles Armstrong	202-975-8348	charles.armstrong@fema.dhs.gov	Chief Information Officer
Dr. Gregory Edwards	202.374.5392	Gregory.edwards@fema.dhs.gov	Chief Information Security Officer
May Wu	202-212-4735	jian-mei.wu@fema.dhs.gov	IPAWS Systems Engineer
Gustavo Barbet	202-212-3586	gustavo.barbet@associates.fema.dhs.gov	IPAWS Information System Security Officer
Cameron Hayes	720-838-1621	cameron.hayes@associates.fema.dhs.gov	IPAWS Developer Lead

Appendix C

IPAWS-OPEN Rules of Behavior

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The following rules of behavior apply to all persons with application access to Kern County Fire Department Interoperable System(s) and/or who have been issued a COGID with associated credentials for IPAWS-OPEN. These individuals shall be held accountable for their actions related to the information resources entrusted to them and must comply with the following rules or risk losing their access privileges. The Rules of Behavior apply to users on official travel as well as at their primary workplace (e.g., Emergency Operations Center – EOC) and at any alternative workplace (e.g., telecommuting from a remote or satellite site) using any electronic device including laptop computers and portable electronic devices (PED's). PED's include personal digital assistants (PDA's) (e.g. Palm Pilots), cell phones, text messaging systems (e.g., Blackberry), and plug-in and wireless peripherals that employ removable media (e.g. CDs, DVDs, etc.). PEDs also encompass USB flash memory (thumb) drives, external drives, and diskettes. These Rules of Behavior are consistent with existing DHS policies and DHS Information Technology (IT) Security directives and are intended to enhance the awareness of each user's responsibilities regarding accessing, storing, receiving and/or transmitting information using IPAWS-OPEN.

2.0 APPLICATION RULES

2.1 Official Use

- IPAWS-OPEN is a Federal application to be used only in the performance of the user's official duties in support of public safety as described in the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- The use of the IPAWS-OPEN for unauthorized activities is prohibited and could result in verbal or written warning, loss of access rights, and/or criminal or civil prosecution.
- By utilizing IPAWS-OPEN, the user of the interoperable system(s) consents to allow system monitoring to ensure appropriate usage for public safety is being observed.
- Kern County Fire Department will be held accountable for safeguarding all configuration items and information entrusted to them by FEMA. Kern County Fire Department is expected to manage the relationship with supporting vendors, consultants and any other entities providing system support on their behalf. In addition, Kern County Fire Department will be held accountable in the event of a security breach or disclosure of sensitive configuration information such as digital certificates. Kern County Fire Department understands that the use of digital signatures, used on their behalf, is binding and Kern County Fire Department will be held accountable accordingly. In the event sensitive information is mishandled, utilization of IPAWS-OPEN may be immediately revoked by FEMA.
- If software interoperating with IPAWS-OPEN enables users to geo-target public alert messages by means of geospatial polygons or circles, then the user shall restrict any such geospatial boundaries so as to remain within the geographical limits of their public warning authority (or as near as possible), as determined by applicable state and/or local laws and duly adopted operational plans.

2.2 Access Security

- All Email addresses provided in connection with interoperable system(s) user accounts must be associated to an approved email account assigned by the user's emergency management organization. The use of personal email accounts to support emergency messaging through IPAWS-OPEN is prohibited.
- Upon approval of the MOA by FEMA, a COG account with COGID and Digital Certificate will be created and issued to the designated technical representative. All individuals with knowledge of these credentials must not share or alter these authentication mechanisms without explicit approval from the FEMA IPAWS Program.

- Every interoperable system user is responsible for remote access security as it relates to their use of IPAWS-OPEN and shall abide by these Rules of Behavior.

2.3 Interoperable System User Accounts and Passwords

- All users must have a discrete user account ID which cannot be the user's social security number. To protect against unauthorized access, passwords linked to the user ID are used to identify and authenticate authorized users.
- Accounts and passwords shall not be transferred or shared. The sharing of both a user ID and associated password with anyone (including administrators) is prohibited.
- Accounts and passwords shall be protected from disclosure and writing passwords down or electronically storing them on a medium that is accessible by others is prohibited.
- The selection of passwords must be complex and shall:
    - Be at least eight characters in length
    - Contain a combination of alphabetic, numeric and special characters
    - Not the same as any of the user's previous 8 passwords.
- Passwords shall not contain any dictionary word.
- Passwords shall not contain any proper noun or the name of any person, pet, child, or fictional character. Passwords shall not contain any employee serial number, Social Security number, birth date, phone number, or any information that could be readily guessed about the creator of the password.
- Passwords shall not contain any simple pattern of letters or numbers, such as "qwerty" or "xyz123".
- Passwords shall not be any word, noun, or name spelled backwards or with a single digit appended, or with a two-digit "year" string, such as 98xyz123.
- Pass phrases, if used in addition to or instead of passwords, should follow the same guidelines.
- Passwords shall not be the same as the User ID.
- Users shall either log off or lock their workstations when unattended.
- Workstations shall be configured to either log off, or activate a password-protected lock, or password-protected screensaver within fifteen (15) minutes of user inactivity.
- Locked sessions shall remain locked until the user re-authenticates.
- Workstations shall be protected from theft.
- A user's account shall be automatically locked after three consecutive failed logon attempts.
- The automatic lockout period for accounts locked due to failed login attempts shall be set for a minimum of twenty (20) minutes.
- A process shall exist for manually unlocking accounts prior to the expiration of the twenty (20) minute period, after sufficient user identification is established.
- Sessions shall automatically be terminated after sixty (60) minutes of inactivity.
- Users are required to change their passwords at least once every 90 days.

- Passwords must be promptly changed whenever a compromise of a password is known or suspected.

2.4 Integrity Controls & Data Protection

- All computer workstations accessing IPAWS-OPEN must be protected by up-to-date anti-virus software. Virus scans must be performed on a periodic basis and when notified by the anti-virus software.
- Users accessing interoperable system(s) to utilize IPAWS-OPEN must:
    - Physically protect computing devices such as laptops, PEDs, blackberry devices, smartphones, etc;
    - Protect sensitive data sent to or received from IPAWS-OPEN;
    - Not use peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing, which can provide a mechanism for the spreading of viruses and put sensitive information at risk;
    - Not program computing devices with automatic sign-on sequences, passwords or access credentials when utilizing IPAWS-OPEN.

Users may not provide personal or official IPAWS-OPEN information solicited by e-mail. If e-mail messages are received from any source requesting personal information or asking to verify accounts or other authentication credentials, immediately report this and provide the questionable e-mail to the Local System Administrator and/or the Kern County Fire Department Help Desk.

- Only devices officially issued through or approved by DHS, FEMA and/or approved emergency management organizations are authorized for use to interoperate with IPAWS-OPEN and use of personal devices to access and/or store IPAWS-OPEN data and information is prohibited.
- If a Blackberry, smartphone or other PED is used to access the interoperable system(s) to utilize IPAWS-OPEN, the device must be password protected and configured to timeout or lock after 10 minutes of inactivity.
- If sensitive information is processed, stored, or transmitted on wireless devices, it must be encrypted using approved encryption methods.

2.5 System Access Agreement

- I understand that I am given access to the interoperable system(s) and IPAWS-OPEN to perform my official duties.
- I will not attempt to access data, information or applications I am not authorized to access nor bypass access control measures.
- I will not provide or knowingly allow other individuals to use my account credentials to access the interoperable system(s) and IPAWS-OPEN.
- To prevent and deter others from gaining unauthorized access to sensitive resources, I will log off or lock my computer workstation or will use a password-protected screensaver whenever I step away from my work area, even for a short time and I will log off when I leave for the day.
- To prevent others from obtaining my password via "shoulder surfing", I will shield my keyboard from view as I enter my password.
- I will not engage in, encourage, or conceal any hacking or cracking, denial of service, unauthorized tampering, or unauthorized attempted use of (or deliberate disruption of) any data or component within the interoperable system(s) and IPAWS-OPEN.
- I agree to inform my Local System Administrator when access to the interoperable system(s) and/or

IPAWS-OPEN is no longer required.

- I agree that I have completed Computer Security Awareness training as may be required by my jurisdiction prior to my initial access to the interoperable system(s) and IPAWS-OPEN and that as long as I have continued access, I will complete Computer Security Awareness training on an annual basis. If my jurisdiction does not provide Computer Security Awareness training, I will complete the FEMA self-study course *IS-906: Workplace Security Awareness* (https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-906) on an annual basis.

2.6 Accountability

- I understand that I have no expectation of privacy while using any services or programs interoperating with IPAWS-OPEN.
- I understand that I will be held accountable for my actions while accessing and using interoperable system(s) and IPAWS-OPEN, including any other connected systems and IT resources.
- I understand it is my responsibility to protect sensitive information from disclosure to unauthorized persons or groups.
- I understand that I must comply with all software copyrights and licenses pertaining to the use of IPAWS-OPEN.

2.7 Incident Reporting

- I will promptly report IT security incidents, or any incidents of suspected fraud, waste or misuse of systems to the Local System Administrator and/or the Kern County Fire Department Help Desk.

3.0 IPAWS-OPEN Rules of Behavior Statement of Acknowledgement

I have read and agree to comply with the requirements of these Rules of Behavior. I understand that the terms of this agreement are a condition of my initial and continued access to Kern County Fire Department Interoperable System(s) *and IPAWS-OPEN and related services and that if I fail to abide by the terms of these Rules of Behavior, my access to any and all IPAWS-OPEN information systems may be terminated and I may be subject to criminal or civil prosecution. I have read and presently understand the above conditions and restrictions concerning my access.*

Printed Name (as listed in Appendix B): Aaron Duncan

Signature: Date: