

# WESTERN FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## Resolution 06-03

**TITLE: SUPPORT FOR 700 MHz BROADBAND SPECTRUM ALLOCATION INITIATIVES BENEFITTING PUBLIC SAFETY PROVIDERS**

**Whereas,** the Western Fire Chiefs Association (WFCAs) fundamentally supports collaborative and innovative approaches to enhancing the fire service and advancing firefighter, citizen, and community safety; and

**Whereas,** successful command and control of emergency incidents requires immediate access to reliable and robust radio signals by all responders to ensure a well-coordinated, multi-disciplinary approach; and


**Whereas,** the current inability to readily communicate between individual “patchworked” systems has proven to impede critical operations and threaten responder safety in the course of rendering assistance; and

**Whereas,** a seamless, wireless, broadband public safety radio communications network with sufficient and priority access for data transmissions will enhance the public safety responder’s ability to protect and save lives; and

**Whereas,** the FCC’s planned clearance of frequency spectrum in the 700MHz band through 2009, that which is currently occupied by television broadcasters, presents a unique and timely opportunity to join with allied partners, both public and private, to increase the quantity of available frequencies for first responder data communications and provide an opportunity to augment and back-up mission critical land-mobile voice communications using new VoIP technologies as well as to greatly improve the quality and reliability of such transmissions;

**Therefore, be it resolved,** the WFCAs supports the concept of seeking an additional allocation of 30 MHz of 700MHz spectrum allocation to public safety to advance interoperable, broadband communications nationwide. The WFCAs further supports establishing management of this spectrum allocation in a manner that creates a nationwide next-generation broadband network for public safety. Additionally, the WFCAs encourages the FCC to conduct formal rulemaking hearings about this matter and debate on its merits. To advance support of this concept, the WFCAs will actively engage in outreach efforts to the WFCAs’s membership and allied professional associations.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED on October 19, 2006**

  
Chief Jeffrey D. Johnson, WFCAs President