



Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Communications Committee

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN #1

July 23, 2004 – IFERN Tone Squelch

The MABAS Executive Board approved the implementation of Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System (CTCSS), commonly referred to as "PL®", on various radio frequencies utilized by MABAS. Communications Committee Advocacy Statement #6 – CTCSS Tones was approved by the Executive Board on April 24, 2003.

Section 4.3 of Statement #6 establishes a date certain of January 1, 2006 for implementation of CTCSS on IFERN base stations throughout the MABAS system. It is therefore imperative that member departments begin the process of reprogramming their mobile and portable radios for **CTCSS transmit capability** on this frequency before January 1, 2006. The CTCSS tone selected for IFERN is 210.7 Hz (M2). Failure to modify your radios before that time may result in a responding unit's inability to communicate with a MABAS dispatch center.

Member Departments were given over 2-1/2 years notice concerning this change. You still over 17 months to arrange for programming changes. Please do not delay, however.

The Communications Committee is also recommending that Departments programming the new narrowband frequencies into radio equipment (IFERN2, Gold, Black & Gray), program these frequencies utilizing both transmit and receive CTCSS tones.

Please distribute this notice to all fire departments and dispatch centers throughout the MABAS system. If you have any questions concerning this or other MABAS communications related issues, please feel free to visit our website at www.MABASRADIO.org.