

Welcome to the
2026
MABAS-Illinois Command &
Communications Training
Summit

February 16 – February 20, 2026

22nd Annual Training Summit
2004 – 2026
DRAFT

Marriott Hotel
Bloomington-Normal, Illinois

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT
COMMAND
February 16 – February 18, 2026**

Monday	February 16, 2026
0730 – 0830	Breakfast for Committee and Staff Members – Redbird Lobby Vendor Sponsor
0700 – 1700	Registration – North End Redbird Lobby
0830 – 0900	Committee Orientation & 2026 Briefings – Redbird C/D
0900 – 1230	Committee Work Sessions
By-Laws Committee – North Executive	Water Rescue Committee – Redbird E
Logistics Committee – Fell 1	Communications Committee – Redbird F
Fire Intelligence Liaisons – Hunt	UAS Committee – Redbird G
TRT Committee – Fell 2	HAZMAT Committee – Broadway
0900 – 1230	Break – Redbird Lobby Vendor Sponsor
1145 – 1230	Working Committee Lunches – Redbird Lobby
1300 – 1330	Welcome & Dignitaries Comments – Redbird C/D Bernie Lyons, MABAS-ILLINOIS CEO Don Davids, MABAS-Illinois President Presentation of Colors; Pledge of Allegiance Opening comments from local/State dignitaries
1330 – 1430	Using Games to Improve Processes - Redbird C/D – Dr. Arthur Simental
1430 – 1445	Break – Redbird Lobby Area – Vendor Sponsor
1445 – 1545	Breakout Sessions Round #1 #1 – Redbird C/D – Games Presentations – Dr. Arthur Simental #2 – Fell B - Effectiveness & Future of Special Teams – Chief Steve Malone #3 – Redbird E – Firemen’s Disciplinary Act – Chief Joseph Mitchell #4 – Redbird F – Grant Writing Strategy – Chief Jeff Bryant #5 – Redbird G – AI Technology – Chief Paul Polep
1545 – 1645	Breakout Session Round #2 #1 – Redbird C/D – Games Presentations – Dr. Arthur Simental #2 – Fell B - Effectiveness & Future of Special Teams – Chief Steve Malone #3 – Redbird E – Firemen’s Disciplinary Act – Chief Joseph Mitchell #4 – Redbird F – Fire Policy – Jon Dorman #5 – Redbird G – AI Technology – Chief Paul Polep
1600 – 1615	Vendor Briefing – Redbird A/B
1645 – 1700	Administrative Announcements & Day’s Summary – Redbird C/D
1800 – 2030	Tired Travelers & Dinner with our Vendors – Redbird A/B/C/D

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Tuesday	February 17, 2026
0700 – 0800	Breakfast for Summit Attendees & Vendors – Redbird Lobby - Sponsor
0700 – 1600	Registration – North End Redbird Lobby
0800 – 0810	Welcome and Administrative Announcements - Redbird C/D
0810 – 0910	“We Want You to Be the Chief, Chief” – Redbird C/D – Chief Richard Mikel
0910 – 0930	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
0930 – 1030	Community Risk Reduction & EMRS Update – Redbird C/D – J.C. Fultz, OSFM
1030 – 1100	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1100 – 1215	Gordon Graham – Redbird C/D
1215 – 1330	Lunch with Vendors – Redbird C/D
1230 – 1300	HSAC Fire Mutual Aid Committee Meeting – Blackburn
1300 – 1400	MABAS INTERSTATE Meeting – Broadway
1330 – 1430	Using Technology to Support Improved Training, Exercises – Redbird C/D Dr. Brad Miller
1430 – 1445	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1445 – 1545	“Game Session” Using Technology – Redbird C/D – Dr. Brad Miller
1545 – 1600	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1600 – 1700	Executive Board Meeting - Redbird C/D
1700 – 1800	Happy Hour - Redbird A/B/C/D Command Door Prizes (Raffle & 50/50 winner need not be present)

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Wednesday	February 18, 2026
0700 – 0800	Breakfast for Summit Attendees – Redbird Lobby Vendor Sponsor
0800 – 0845	Open Forum, “The Future of MABAS Deployed Equipment & Special Teams” – Redbird C/D – <i>MABAS Elected Board & CEO</i>
0845 – 0945	Rules of Engagement – Redbird C/D – <i>Todd Friddle</i>
0945 – 1000	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1000 – 1200	Joint Session with Dispatchers – Redbird C/D – “Standard Response Protocol and Standard Reunification Method: An Overview for Fire Service Personnel – <i>J.P. Moore, Illinois Fire Service Institute</i>
1200 – 1215	Closing Comments and Wrap Up

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT
COMMUNICATIONS
FEBRUARY 18 – FEBRUARY 20, 2026**

Wednesday	February 18, 2026
0800 – 1600	Registration – North End Redbird Lobby
1000 – 1200	Joint Session with Dispatchers – Redbird C/D – “Standard Response Protocol and Standard Reunification Method: An Overview for Fire Service Personnel – <i>J.P. Moore, Illinois Fire Service Institute</i>
1200 – 1300	Lunch on your own!
1300 – 1330	Opening Introductions and Ice Breaker – Redbird C/D
1330 – 1430	Meet Your OP’s Branch Chief – Redbird C/D
1430 – 1445	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1445 – 1545	Telecommunicators and CPR – Sgt Zach Oltmanns, Dekalb County Sheriff’s Office - Redbird C/D In this training session Zach will provide a valuable opportunity to listen to real 911 calls involving dispatcher-assisted CPR. We’ll also explore strategies to initiate telecommunicators CPR (T-CPR) more quickly and effectively. Additionally, we’ll provide a brief update on Senate Bill 1295, which is expected to be signed by the Governor before the conference. The new legislation includes updated requirements for 911 telecommunicators
1545 – 1645	Lesson learned.....Genoa March 16 th 4 th alarm with Tenders /or/ Palos with a car into a church / or/ Lake Carroll house fire - Redbird C/D - Presenter
1645 – 1700	Communications Door Prizes – Raffle – 50/50 Drawing (Raffle & 50/50 winner need not be present)
1800 – 2030	Tired Travelers & Dinner with our Vendors – Pirates – Redbird A/B/C/D

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Thursday	February 19, 2026
0700 – 0800	Breakfast for Attendees & Vendors – Redbird Lobby – Vendor Sponsor
0800 – 0900	WE are MABAS - Redbird C/D – Mark Sikorski
0900 – 1000	Breakout Sessions
	MABAS Basics – Redbird C/D – Tom Clifton
	MABAS Advanced – Redbird E – Chris Lienhardt
1000 – 1015	Break with Vendors – Redbird B
1015 – 1100	Assets, Special Teams and the STIC - Redbird C/D – Mark Sikorski & Darb Calbert
1100 – 1200	The State of MABAS – Chief Bernie Lyons, MABAS CEO – Redbird C/D
1100 – 1400	Illinois APCO/NENA Meeting – Redbird A
1200 – 1300	Lunch with Vendors – Redbird C/D
1300 – 1430	Dispatch Simulator available! Sign up at the registration tables and bring your local box cards. Joe McGrath – North Executive Boardroom
1300 – 1500	Tabletop Exercise – Stop and Go of a 'Local Incident and beyond' Redbird C/D – Chris Lienhardt & Michael Graves
1500 – 1515	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1515 – 1615	IL-TERT - Heather Butler – Redbird C/D A review of the Illinois Telecommunicator Emergency Response Team. Heather explains the benefits of being a member and reviews the team's recent activities.
1615 – 1630	Administrative Announcements & Day's Summary – Redbird C/D
Evening	On Your Own – Enjoy Bloomington-Normal

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Friday	February 20, 2026
0700 – 0800	Breakfast for Attendees & Vendors – Redbird Lobby – Vendor Sponsor
0800 – 0900	MABAS Year in review – Rachel Thompson - Redbird C/D
0900 – 1000	Session 9 – Redbird C/D - OPEN
1000 – 1030	Break - Redbird Lobby CHECK OUT TIME!!!
1030 – 1145	Critical Stress in First Responders – Cindy McKnight with Living Pono - Redbird C/D
1145 – 1200	Closing Comments and Wrap Up – The Communications Mentors