

City of Madison Fire Department

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Director Albert Jones
Madison County EMA Director
1604 HWY 22
Canton, MS. 39046

Director Jones,

Communications is very important in public safety. The Madison Fire Department is currently operating radio communications on the State of Mississippi's Wireless Network (MSWIN). This system has been proven to be a very reliable asset. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is mandating that all radio frequencies be narrow-banded and all public safety radios be P25 compliant.

Firefighters use hand held portable radios that are used on a daily basis. These radios are the only communication devices used in unsafe environments such as a structure fire. These radios are the best way of communications during an emergency.

The FCC is mandating that MSWIN begin P25 compliance in the near future. Once this compliance begins all of the hand held portable radios currently used by the Madison fire Department will not work. This will place a critical communications problem during emergencies.

The Madison Fire Department is requesting assistance from Madison County EMA and the Madison County Board of Supervisor with the purchase of hand held radios. We are requesting this money from Madison County E911 fund in the amount of \$45,000.

Approval of this request will certainly help to keep first responders in Madison County safe!

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Derrick Layton
Fire Chief
City of Madison