

APCO

MEMBER CHAPTER SERVICES Committee



APCO 2023
August 6-9 | Nashville, TN

For more information and to register go to:

<https://www.apco2023.org/>

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Membership Information

Member Type	6/1/2022	6/1/2023
Associate Members	2,141	1,976
Full Members	4,055	3,986
Full Group Members	8,410	9,100
Online Group Members	20,564	23,400
Commercial Members	435	441
Commercial Group Members	266	287
Total Number of Members	35,871	39,190
Total Number of Group Agencies	1,438	1,564
Commercial Groups	50	40

Silent Key

Richard H. Tuma
Wisconsin Chapter

We have learned that Mary Messamore passed away on
 June 16th, 2023

For more information, his Silent Key can be found here:

<https://psc.apcointl.org/2023/06/21/silent-key-richard-h-tuma/>



Ohio Chapter Highlights

March 2023

President Johnna Gonzalez-Sells travelled to Washington DC for “911 Goes to Washington”. During this trip she had the opportunity to meet with 4 Representatives to advocate for two federal level 911 issues.



October 2022

The Ohio TERT team deployed to Florida to assist with the aftermath of Hurricane Ian. The multi-agency team was deployed to the Lee County, Florida area to give much needed relief to the 911 dispatchers in the county.



Pennsylvania Chapter Highlights

PA APCO, like many other organizations, has seen a slight decline in membership. As a Chapter we are struggling to find members that are interested in serving as Board members and/or on committees, at both Chapter and state levels. We, as a Board, did some brainstorming and came up with the idea of hosting an informational session open to all personnel in the dispatch field, both APCO members and non APCO members. We advertised the session via bulk email, PA APCO webpage, and our PA APCO Facebook page.

The meeting was kicked off with quick introductions from the Board members present. A PowerPoint was utilized to show our current officer/Board structure and who holds each position. An explanation of the succession in the officer positions was also given along with information on which positions will be open for election this fall. All committees were discussed and the current committee members serving were named in case interested parties wanted to contact them directly.

Our Chapter events were explained, to include meetings, both Board and general, the Christmas Membership Dinner, and the Spring Conference, including when and where each event is held. A new topic discussed was the planning of regional trainings across the state, hosted and funded by the Chapter. The current Board has been working on this topic, however, we are still finalizing our plans and are open to suggestions related to topics, length of training, and training locations.

Guidance was offered on how to contact the Board for inquires and attend meetings to observe what occurs on a monthly basis. One on one meetings were also offered for those that wish to dig deeper into a specific topic or the Chapter as a whole.

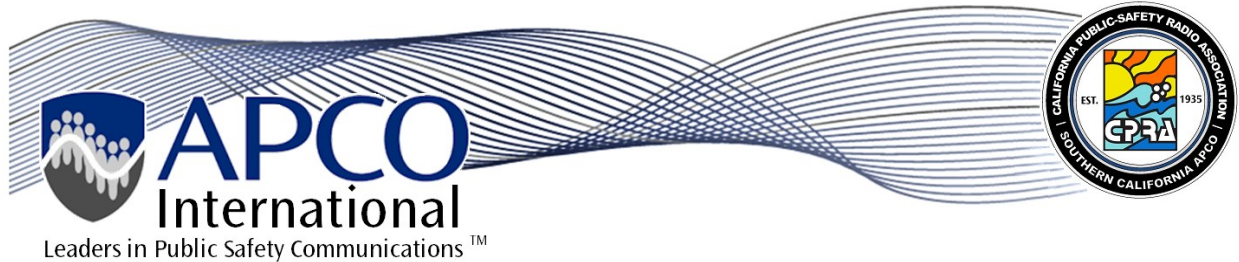
Considering this was the Chapters' first informational session, it went very well. There were sixteen in attendance on the call and five of those attending where there as interested parties. We will be engaging them again in order to follow up on the session.

We, the Board of PA APCO, are sincerely hopeful that this meeting is the beginning of bringing new interest and growth to our Chapter.

Submitted by: Beth Baylor & Daryl George



News from CPRA



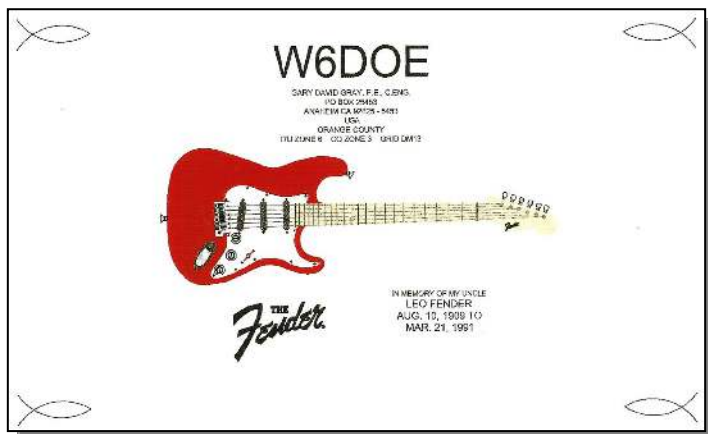
50 Years of Service to APCO

The Southern California Chapter of APCO (CPRA Chapter) celebrates the 50 years of APCO membership and service by **APCO Past President Gary David Gray.**



Born in Orange, California, Gary David Gray lived and attended school in Anaheim, attended Fullerton Junior College where he earned an A.A. degree, while working part-time at his uncle's guitar factory. Gary obtained an FCC Class D Citizens Band license in 1962, and became a licensed Amateur Radio Operator in 1963, now W6DOE. Amateur call sign W6DOE was originally held by Gary's uncle, Leo Fender, founder of Fender Guitars, the most storied of all guitar companies.

Following Junior College, Gary worked full-time as an Engineering Aid for the Orange County Road Department, while he attended California State University, Long Beach. Gary joined the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) in 1966 and is now a Life Senior Member. Gary completed a B.S. degree in Engineering (Electrical) in 1969, also earning his FCC First Class Radiotelephone Operator License.



News from CPRA (continued)



Upon graduation, Gary started working as a Communications Engineering Assistant for the County of Orange. In 1973, he earned a California Professional Engineer (P.E.) license, and became a Member of the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and its California Chapter (CSPE). Gary also joined APCO International that year. He completed an M.S.E.E. degree in 1974, and was granted a P.E. License by the District of Columbia. Gary joined the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers (IERE-England) in 1974, and became a Chartered Engineer (C.Eng.) in 1975. He also served as Chair of the IEEE Orange County Section for the 1974-1975 year.

Gary's work assignments included the design and modification of radio systems for Orange County and its cities, districts, etc., moving from 40 MHz to 460 MHz to 800 MHz. He represented the County of Orange in Radio Frequency Coordination meetings and maintained their FCC licensing.

Gary served as President of the Southern California (CPRA) Chapter of APCO International in 1980 and again in 1984, and was elected to the APCO Board of Officers in 1985, serving as APCO International President for the 1988-1989 year. He is an APCO Senior Member, an APCO Life Member, and was awarded The Art McDole Award of Distinction by APCO in 2000.

Gary started the APCO Project 25 in August of 1989, and served as a member of its Board of Directors.

During his 50 years of APCO service, Gary actively participated in several other Committees and Task Forces, including:

- APCO Local Frequency Advisor since 1986
- 9-1-1 Emerging Technologies Committee (Member)
- Amateur Radio Operator Task Force (Member)
- APCO Automated Frequency Coordination (AFC) Western States Region (Director)
- APCO Institute (Director)
- Constitution & Bylaws Committee (Member)
- Credentials Committee (Member)
- Engineering & Research Committee (Chair)
- National Public Safety Communications Plan Steering Committee (Chair)
- Project 25 Steering Committee (Member)
- Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (Member)

News from CPRA (continued)

- Radio Spectrum Task Force (Member)
- Regulatory & Dockets Committee (Chair)
- Spectrum Management Committee (Member)
- Spectrum and Technology Committee (Member)
- Strategic Planning Committee (Member)
- Western Regional Conference Program Chair (1978, 1984, 1985)

Gary is also a dual member of the Northern California (NAPCO) Chapter of APCO and serves on their Membership and Nominations Committee.

Gary retired as Chief Telecommunications Engineer/Engineering Manager after 40.58374 years of service (according to Gary) with the County of Orange, and still serves today as one of the APCO Local Frequency Coordination Advisors.

Gary is also a Life Fellow with The Radio Club of America (RCA), a Life Member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), a Life Member of the California/National Association of Professional Engineers (CSPE/NSPE), and a Life Member of Eta Kappa Nu, National Electrical Engineering Honor Society (HKN).

Gary is married to Mary Irene. Her daughter, Holly Anne, was born to her in 1965. Gary's son, David Christian, a Peace Officer, was born in 1967, and went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in 1999. Gary has four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

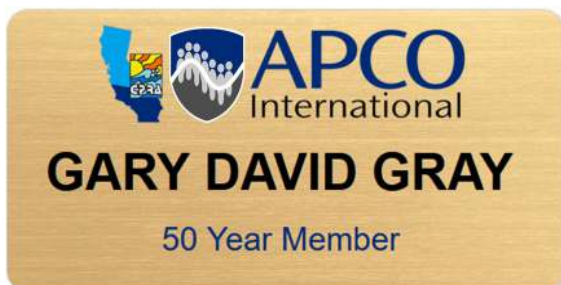


The Southern California Chapter recognized Gary's 50 years of service to APCO International and the Southern California Chapter at its 35th Annual Public Safety Awards Banquet in April at the Sheraton Cerritos Ballroom with over 300 in attendance. This annual event recognizes the outstanding work of our Southern California Public Safety Telecommunicators and Technologists during the past year. Recognition includes RF & IT Technologist of the Year, Engineer of the Year, GIS Technologist of the Year, Telecommunicator of the Year, Outstanding Team of the Year, Outstanding Performance by an Individual of the Year (Police and Fire), Supervisor of the Year and Special Recognition for an agency or group that performed above and beyond during an unusual event or incident.

News from CPRA (continued)



Chapter President Ron Dunn presents Gary with his 50 Year Member name badge and 50 year service ribbon.



Submitted by: John W Wright – 79th President APCO International
PIO - Southern California Chapter of APCO (CPRA)



Commercial Advisory Committee

APCO International prides itself on bringing people together in the field of public safety, and thankfully has many community members dedicated to making that happen. The [Commercial Advisory Council](#) (CAC) is a team full of people who care and help to expand this core value of APCO. In addition to their work on planning, expanding, and facilitating member involvement, the CAC member's collective experience makes for a great network of resources and connections. The CAC would like to take a moment to highlight some of its members to shed a little light on their experience, and positions within the industry.

Jason Bernard (CAC Chair) - I started my career in Public Safety as a Police Officer before transitioning to the commercial side of the industry. Having worked as a Senior Account Manager on Motorola's NG-911 sales team for several years, I recently changed roles. I now am responsible for our Mobile Video Solutions within Michigan. In August 2023, I'll begin my 8th year serving on the Commercial Advisory Council and am currently the Chair. I'm very thankful for the personal and professional relationships that have grown during this time and look forward to continuing my APCO involvement.

Jessica Long (CAC Vice Chair) – Jessica has been with Tyler Technologies for 14 years, along with serving as the Vice Chair of APCO's Commercial Advisory Council this last year. In her role as Senior Manager, Client Success for the Public Safety Division, Jessica manages the launch operations team as well as the onboarding team. She is responsible for orchestrating the rollout of new products and releases. Her focus is on preparing the Public Safety Division to be organizationally ready to deliver, whether by streamlining communications or developing repeatable processes that ensure a positive client experience.

Mark Spross (CAC APCO Group Leader) – With over 30 years of service in Public Safety, Mark has worked as a Dispatcher, Emergency Manager, Deputy Sheriff, Dispatch Operations Supervisor/ Technical Manager/Operations Manager and is currently the Executive Director of a 9-1-1 center in Oregon. Mark has served in all positions on the Oregon APCO/NENA Executive Board including working on various committees and chairing the APCO Western Regional Conference. He is currently the Executive Council Representative for the Oregon Chapter. On the national level for APCO, Mark has chaired committees, worked on a task force and is currently the Group Leader overseeing numerous committees, including the CAC. Mark is also a candidate for APCO International 2nd Vice President.

Bill Behar - Has provided solutions to the Public Safety Industry for over 25 years. As Sr. Account Executive with Commercial Electronics Corp since 2001, Bill has been a provider of the High-ground recording solution. He has been a member of APCO since 2007. Currently serving as the Chair of the Commercial Advisory Council, he has also served in the following capacities: Represented the Industry Partners as the CCAM for the joint Texas APCO/NENA Conference 2012-2018, APCO International Commercial Advisory Council/ Member August 2014 – present, Commercial Representative for the Washington APCO/NENA Chapter 2016-2017, APCO's Public Safety Awards, and Emerging Technology Compliance Committees.

Commercial Advisory Committee (continued)

Eric Hagerson (Governance Committee Vice Chair) - "Spearheading T-Mobile's Public Safety policy advocacy, I have the opportunity to engage with a wide variety of stakeholders in multiple settings in the Public Safety space. I love representing T-Mobile and one of the most satisfying aspects of my job is being part of efforts that benefit the entire ecosystem".

Joe Jackson (Membership and Marketing Chair) - "I have been working with [The Spectrum Firm](#) since 2012, assisting with sales and as a Licensing and Operations Associate. It has been great to get a more hands-on connection to our industry. Our company works as a liaison through every step of the FCC licensing process and over the years have worked with a wide variety of people in need of assistance. The CAC has been a great opportunity to expand my knowledge base and work with an amazing team, using my background in journalism to facilitate articles being published for the council and helping our membership group connect with more and more people".

Jeremy DeMar (Membership and Marketing Vice Chair) - A member of the public safety community for well over thirty years, D. Jeremy DeMar, MA, CPE, ENP has been serving the emergency communications profession for the last two decades, most recently as an Executive Director in New Jersey. In March 2017, Jeremy completed graduate studies with the Naval Postgraduate School, publishing a thesis titled "Next Generation 9-1-1: Policy Implications of Incident Related Imagery (IRI) on the Public Safety Answering Point". Jeremy entered a four-year term with the CAC at APCO's National Conference in 2022, and currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Membership & Marketing Committee. In addition to his work with the CAC, Jeremy serves on several APCO and NENA committees, and is also a Subject Matter Expert with the CISA/SAFECOM NG9-1-1 Working Group. He has presented on a variety of topics at local, state, regional, and national conferences and is a thought leader in the disruptive and emerging technologies space. Professionally, Jeremy is a Senior Product Manager at [Intrado](#), focusing on Innovation and the PSAP of the Future.

Amy Marion (CCAM Liaison Committee Chair, Conference & Expo Committee) - Has served in public safety for 25 years. She started her career in 911 in the ECC in 1998, worked as a supervisor and later as a 9--1-1 Coordinator. She has a well-rounded public safety perspective with experience in operations, management, administrative and technical areas. Amy joined the private sector in 2019 working at RapidSOS and has worked in several roles providing support across the organization. Amy is active in her state APCO chapter and currently serves on the IL APCO Executive Board as a Chapter Commercial Advisory Member (CCAM), on the Illinois Public Safety Telecommunications Association (IPSTA) Conference Executive Board, and the Illinois Joint APCO/NENA Legislative Committee. Amy joined the CAC in 2021.

Tina Jackson (CCAM Liaison Committee) - President of The Spectrum Firm - "I have been in public safety communications and an APCO member for many years. Our company specializes in helping our customers through the FCC related processes that impact their communications systems. My love for the people side of the industry and the result of our core values being to treat all people with kindness, dignity and respect is what has kept me excited and engaged for almost 40 years".

Holly Blanks - With fifteen years of experience in the public safety market, Holly interacts with public

Commercial Advisory Committee (continued)

safety agencies around the globe, absorbing their best practices while introducing them to emerging technologies. “As Director of International Business Development for Pulsiam, a dynamic and entrepreneurial public safety software company, I lead Pulsiam’s efforts in identifying market trends and new business opportunities while playing an integral role in Pulsiam’s product development process. I am also an active member of the public safety community through my involvement with many industry leading organizations such as the International Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO)”.

Ken Carson - “As an Executive VP, I am involved in all aspects of the business. I also get to solve problems internally and with customers. I work closest with marketing which I enjoy the more time I spend in it. The internet has changed how we market at Xybix and how marketing in general has changed. I love it”.

Misty Trotter has been with [Applied Digital Solutions](#) for nearly 10 years. Though she represents several of the leading recording manufacturers, her focus has remained on public safety. She can be found attending industry events across her territory and frequently teaching courses on Quality Assurance implementation and Employee retention. Misty was elected to serve as the Kentucky APCO CCAM in 2020 and joined the CAC in 2022. In her non-working hours, you'll find her caring for her mother and three beautiful kiddos, baking family meals, cheering at middle school sports, or helping her twins navigate the joys (and frustrations) of middle school life.

Neil Horden - “After 17 years with Federal Engineering, I am branching out to provide guidance and advice to the agencies and suppliers in the Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure communications market as Principal Consultant and owner of Horden Technology, LLC”.

Greg Farmer - “I am a Business Development Director for L3Harris and have worked with Public Safety customers since 1994. Creating technology solutions to help solve public safety communications problems and increase their personnel safety and mission effectiveness is what I love doing”.

Jim Hansen - “Since 2015 I have served as a Regional Manager for Word Systems working with our Public Safety Community providing Mission Critical Recording and Evidence Management Solutions. At Word Systems LLC, our goal is to provide our clients with best-in-class audio, video, and digital evidence management solutions that enhances compliance, transparency, processes, performance, and we have been doing so since 1977. I come from a family of public safety, so helping our communities and first responders is and has been near and dear to my heart my entire life”.

Mark Hannah - “As a Senior Emergency Communications Consultant for AECOM with over 40 years in the emergency communications business, I collaborate with clients to provide advice and guidance on ways to solve their emergency communications problems. Projects range from 9-1-1 centers to wide area radio networks and everything in between. As a large A&E firm, we provide services in many different areas of critical infrastructure, nearly all involving some form of communications”.

Commercial Advisory Committee *(continued)*

Manny Vierra - Manny is a high-level executive and entrepreneur who has more than 30 years' experience in the wireless and public safety communication industries. He has been instrumental in mentoring many companies and agencies to develop and implement their communication systems. He has been a longtime member of National APCO. Manny has served as the CCAM for Northern California APCO for the past 9 years. In his capacity as the CCAM, he has chaired the Regional Showcase and Conference. He has been a seated member of the Commercial Advisory Council (CAC) for National APCO for the past 5 years.

Diva Miranda Jones – “I have been in the public safety industry for over 30 years, starting as an explorer for a local sheriff’s department in Colorado. I attended the Metropolitan State University of Denver for Criminal Justice and Criminology and worked for an ECC for 19 years. I hung up my headset as an operations manager and started my career in the private sector. As a sales engineer with [Carbyne](#), I’m excited to showcase our NG911 technology with agencies across the world. I am a passionate reader, Christmas-themed Hallmark movie fan, avid Xbox gamer, and enjoy being present in everyday life activities with my husband, my father, and our three doggies”.

Our team is full of experienced members of the Public Safety and Telecommunications industry who care about improving connectivity and membership for all going forward. If you would like to know more or connect with our members on anything from resources to membership, feel free to reach out.

<https://www.apcointl.org/apco-commercial-community/commercial-advisory-council-cac/>

Jason Bernard

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Jessica Long

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<https://psc.apcointl.org/tag/commercial-advisory-council/>

Submitted by Joe Jackson

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Upcoming Conferences



The poster features a purple and blue gradient background with a grid pattern and starburst effects. At the top, the dates "OCTOBER 22ND" and "THROUGH 25TH" are displayed in large, white, outlined letters. In the center is the IPSTA logo, a circular emblem with "ILLINOIS PUBLIC SAFETY" at the top, "TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS" at the bottom, and "CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS" around the inner edge. The center of the logo contains a map of Illinois with "IPSTA" in red, "9-1-1" below it, and "ILAPCO • INENA" at the bottom. Below the logo, the text "IPSTA CONFERENCE TWENTY TWENTY-THREE" is written in large, bold, white letters. Further down, event details are listed in smaller white text: "PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING AND OPENING KEY NOTE by ROBERT MANN", "AWARDS PRESENTATION AND BANQUET featuring THE SOFA KINGS", and "DAILY BREAKOUT SESSIONS | CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS AVAILABLE". At the bottom left, it says "SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT WWW.911CONFERENCE.ORG". At the bottom center, it says "Sponsored by ILAPCO and INENA". At the bottom right is a QR code.

OCTOBER 22ND

THROUGH 25TH

ILLINOIS PUBLIC SAFETY • TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

IPSTA
9-1-1
ILAPCO • INENA

**IPSTA
CONFERENCE
TWENTY TWENTY-THREE**

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Sponsored by
ILAPCO and INENA



Upcoming Conferences (continued)



The Texas Public Safety Fall Symposium, presented by Texas APCO and Texas NENA, is scheduled for Oct 15-18, 2023. The Symposium will be held at the Embassy Suites in Denton, TX.

If you plan to book a room, the hotel block link is only active until September 22nd. If you cannot attend, please contact Cindy Bridges-Logan (cbridges@wilco.org) before canceling your room. If you prefer to call the hotel directly, the number is 940-243-3799, and ask for the discount rate for Texas Association of Public-Safety Officials International per our contract. Group room rates are only valid until 9/22/2023.

Hotel Link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink&ctyhocn=DFWNTE&groupCode=APC&arrival=20231014&departure=20231018&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,en,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Register here: [Texas Public Safety Fall Symposium](#)

Upcoming Conferences (continued)



Important Registration Dates:

Regular Registration: May 1st – July 31st, 2023

Registration Refunds @ 50%: after August 1st, 2023

Late Registration: August 1st, 2023

Registration Deadline: no refunds after September 15, 2023



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