

**TO: MERA Operations Board**  
**FROM: Todd Williams - MERA Operations Officer**

**SUBJECT:** Request for additional radios - Marin County Probation Department (Board action)

#### Recommended Action

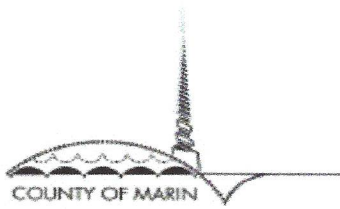
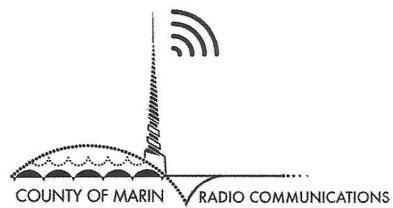
Please approve request to increase Marin County Probation radio cache with five additional portable surplus Motorola radios.

#### Background

On May 15, 2023, the Marin County Radio Communications Division was notified concerning adding five additional MERA portable radios to the 1<sup>st</sup> Gen MERA network.

- o Marin County Probation requests five additional surplus portable radios to equip a growing field patrol staff for enforcement operations.
- o Probation currently has more staff with field supervision assignments than portable radios available for their department.
- o These additional radios will assist the Probation Department in effectively and safely expanding their field operations.
- o In addition, the radios will be used to communicate with dispatch at the Marin County Sheriff's Communications Center primarily on Zone F, Channel 2. The five surplus radios are also needed indefinitely. Marin County Probation is aware that the Generation 1 radios will likely no longer function on the MERA network by Q3 of 2024. The Probation Department is determining next steps for purchasing additional radios to operate on the Next Gen network prior to switchover.
- o Please feel free to contact Trevor Lilian, Senior Deputy Probation Officer @ email address: [tlilian@marinwater.org](mailto:tlilian@marinwater.org) or work cell (415)755-5824 for any additional questions or information.

Per MERA policy, Marin County Probation requests to add five additional radios onto the 1<sup>st</sup> Gen MERA network. Request will be forwarded to the next level, i.e., MERA Governing Board if approved with no objections during the MERA Operations Board Meeting.



PROBATION DEPARTMENT  
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Forward in excellence



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May 15, 2023

Todd Williams  
Telecommunications Manager  
County of Marin  
Dept. Public Works  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Ste. 304  
(415) 464-7042

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am writing to formally request five of the surplus Generation 1 portable radios. The radios will be assigned to deputy probation officers for the County of Marin. I am primarily responsible for managing all portable radios for the Probation Department. Prior to my department assigning the radios to a specific deputy, I record the number of the portable radio on a spreadsheet for inventory tracking purposes. This spreadsheet list is also sent to the managers at Marin County Sheriff's Communications Center, as we primarily operate on Zone F, Channel 2.

Probation Department policy requires the use of portable radios during all field operations by deputies. Therefore, we need the additional radios to equip our growing field patrol staff for enforcement operations. Probation currently has more staff with field supervision assignments than portable radios available to our department. The request for five of the surplus portable radios will assist the Probation Department in effectively and safely expanding our field operations.

As described above, the radios will be used to communicate with dispatch at the Marin County Sheriff's Communications Center primarily on Zone F, Channel 2. The five surplus radios are needed indefinitely. We are aware that the Generation 1 radio will likely no longer function on the MERA network by Q3 of 2024. The Probation Department is determining next steps for purchasing additional radios to operate on the Next Gen network prior to cutover.

Thank you for your consideration to our request.

Sincerely,

Trevor Lilian  
Senior Deputy Probation Officer  
County of Marin  
(415) 755-5824 C  
[tlilian@marincounty.org](mailto:tlilian@marincounty.org)