

ADMINISTRATION

Code of Conduct

1 Purpose

There are numerous issues or circumstances that may arise which could have negative ramifications if not handled properly by Monroe County ARES personnel. We hope to avoid this possibility by covering the need for a standard of conduct on the part of Monroe County ARES members, as well as by describing some potential problem areas and how they should be addressed.

2 Scope

Scope text.

3 Code of Conduct

3.1

While not every potential problem area can be predicted and covered in this document, a general discussion of expectations is presented.

Remember that, at all times, we are representing Monroe County ARES as well as our served agencies.

No ARES volunteer will ever travel to any disaster site without prior approval of the Emergency Coordinator or designated backup.

All Amateur Radio operations will be governed by Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations.

We will only accept assignments we are qualified to perform, and we will perform at a high level of professional competence.

MC ARES members should conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times while participating in a MC ARES activity or when representing this organization.

We will maintain the highest standard of personal and professional conduct.

MC ARES members should wear and prominently display their MC ARES badges while participating in a MC ARES activity or when representing this organization.

During an ARES activation or other ARES activity, there must be a minimum of two adults present whenever a minor is present.

All MC ARES members will follow the rules and regulations of any building or property where they are assigned as part of a MC ARES activity.

If approached by a representative of the media, a MC ARES member will direct him or her to the media interface of the served agency such as the Public Information Officer within the Command Staff.

No MC ARES member shall provide service to the public or served agency or participate in an activation while under the influence of any drugs or alcohol.

No MC ARES member shall discriminate against any individual, member, or organization in any way. Any or all concerns should be discussed with the EC.

All MC ARES members will strive for excellence in all aspects of decision making.

No MC ARES member shall accept compensation from any member of our served agencies.

No MC ARES member shall disclose or use any confidential information of a served agency to any person who is not authorized to receive such information or use that information to the disadvantage of the served agency.

No MC ARES member shall relay protected health or personal information in any way that links a specific person with that information. This includes but is not limited to the individual's past, present or future physical or mental health or condition, the provision of health care to the individual, the individual's name, address, phone number, birth date, or Social Security Number.

No MC ARES member will operate or act in a manner that creates a conflict with the interests of our served agencies.

All MC ARES members will refuse to engage in, or condone, discrimination of any member of our served agencies or their clients on the basis of race, gender, age, citizenship, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.

We shall not publicly disparage the character or professional performance of another ARES member, member of a served agency or of the public, and shall perform public service so as to avoid unnecessary controversy. Our conduct at MC ARES meetings will adhere to this standard.

All MC ARES members will always communicate in a truthful and accurate manner.

All MC ARES members will cooperate in every reasonable and proper way with the served agency's volunteers and staff. We will not operate or act in any manner that is contrary to the best interests of our served agencies.

All MC ARES members must exercise reasonable care to prevent loss or damage to ARES and served agency property.

All MC ARES members should report to their assigned stations on time and always be well turned out.

We will work with the leadership of Monroe County ARES for the mutual benefit of the group.

MC ARES members will use every opportunity to improve the served agency's understanding of the role of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

Any infractions will be reviewed by the EC and AECs and appropriate action will be taken.

3.2 The Amateur's Code

As part of our heritage we will endeavor to live up to the principles of The Amateur's Code written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

The Radio Amateur is

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

3.3 References

None

4 Safety

5 Abbreviations and Terms

6 Related Documents and Information

Portions of this Code of Conduct document were drawn, with permission, from the San Diego Amateur Radio Emergency Services Group (SDGARES) Code of Ethics document.

http://www.sdgares.org/Code_of_Ethics.htm

Revision History

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	AUTHOR - CALL
0	9 Sept 2007	Initial publication.	Emergency Plan Team