



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Military Department
Office of Emergency Management
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Vince VanDerHyde
Oregon ARES SEC

Nov. 9th, 2015

As a result of your actions stated in your email dated Friday Nov. 6th, 2015 regarding non-participation in the OEM ECC Quarterly Drill/Cascadia Rising Pre-Event, the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has made the decision to sever our relationship with you and the OEM Amateur Radio (ARES) Unit.

You were requested by the Oregon OEM, your "served agency", a civil defense organization, to participate in the upcoming Nov. 12th OEM ECC Quarterly Drill, a Cascadia Rising 2016 pre-event, to test RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) emergency communications capabilities and operations. This drill is intended to be an intergovernmental communications only exercise. The dual registration (ARES/RACES) state issued ID Cards provide authorization to the OEM Amateur Radio unit members to participate in a RACES drill/exercise. Your refusal to support this exercise, and your directions to the Amateur Radio Unit members not to participate, is completely unacceptable. The OEM depends upon having a reliable Auxiliary Communications Volunteer Service available to operate radio stations when requested.

The ARES manual dated March 2015 by the ARRL states clearly in Chapter 2 the requirements of an ARES unit, ARES members, ARES EC's (Emergency Coordinators) and ARES SEC's (Section Emergency Coordinators), and what their role and participation is during a RACES drill, exercise or activation. As the acting EC for the OEM Amateur Radio Unit, and the Oregon SEC, you have imposed yourself between the Oregon Office of Emergency Management and the registered RACES Volunteers who are a part of the OEM's Volunteer Program, by directing them not to participate in this exercise. This is in direct contradiction of what the ARES manual states regarding your responsibilities to your "served agency".

Your membership in the OEM Amateur Radio (ARES) unit is terminated effective immediately. This is a final decision by the Oregon OEM and no appeal will be entertained. Your State Issued ID card is hereby immediately expired and should not be used to gain entry to any government facility, including but not limited to the OEM at the National Guard Anderson Readiness Center in Salem. Please return all OEM property including your State Issued ID Card(s), building access badge(s), OEM logo clothing, and any equipment that is in your possession to the State Communications Officer, within 10 business days, at the address listed below. You are hereby directed not to represent the OEM or its Amateur Radio Unit in any capacity now or in the future.

We appreciate your years of service to the OEM and the OEM Amateur Radio Unit.

Sincerely,

Terry Pietras
State Communications Officer/W7JOC
Oregon RACES Officer
Oregon Office of Emergency Management
Oregon Military Department
3225 State St.
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