

PANAMA
LPRA - Liga Panameña de Radioaficionados

Web: <http://www.qsl.net/lpr>

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REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY SYSTEM

LIGA PANAMEÑA DE RADIOAFICIONADOS A NIVEL NACIONAL (LPRA)

History

The first Board of Directors of the "Liga Panameña de Radioaficionados" (Panama Ham Radio Organization) was elected on January 28, 1947, in Panama City. Then, in order to reach and organize its members in all areas of Panama, the "Liga Panameña de Radioaficionados a Nivel Nacional" (Panama National Ham Radio Organization) was created on April 16, 1977, in Villa de los Santos. Today, this organization encompasses eleven Ham Radio Clubs throughout the country.

Introduction to the System of Emergencies

On November 15, 1982, a law was passed creating the National System of Civil Protection (SINAPROC), which includes the Panama National Ham Radio Organization, at the Center of Emergency Operations (COE).

The purpose of the Center of Emergency Operations is to direct all the coordination activities and joint operations that take place among the institutions that comprise the National System for Civil Protection. These activities are triggered when a state of ALERT is issued, in response to an adverse situation, of natural or human causes, in order to provide timely and appropriate answers, with the purpose of ending or alleviating human suffering.

The radio amateurs of the Panama National Ham Radio Organization (LPRA) who take part in the information and decision making board of the national, regional and local Centers of Emergency Operations (COE), carry out planning, support and information tasks in the area of communications. Because of this, they should be familiar with the COE system and the LPRA Emergency Manual.

The President of the Panama National Ham Radio Organization acts as the main Communications coordinator of the COE, when a national emergency is declared by the National Security Council, by direct order of the President of Panama.

The President of the LPRA has at least two substitutes who take part in information and coordination meetings with the Presidents of Clubs from several geographical areas of the LPRA.

The radio amateurs who operate the regional and local Control Stations of the LPRA and the COE must have the necessary means for communication in UHF, VHF AND HF in phone mode. They must also have knowledge of digital operations, especially PACKET, to send and receive confirmed information coming from base, mobile and international stations.

In its Emergency Manual, the LPRA recommends that all communication taking place between the control stations of the LPRA Emergency Network and the COE be made using the Packet digital system due to the

stations of the LPRA Emergency Network and the COL be made using the Packet digital system due to the advantages it offers in dealing with over-modulation and the constant interruptions of "breakers".

Frequencies

·7.090 MHz a frequency for contacts and for information exchange in HF.

·Emergency frequencies in HF

80mts3.750MHz

40mts7.085MHz

20mts14.150MHz

15mts21.250MHz

·For UHF, VHF and Digital Communication frequencies, see

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Panama Zones:

HP1PanamaHP5Herrera

HP2ColonHP6Veraguas

HP2Comarca de San BlasHP7Darien

HP3ChiriquiHP8Cocle

HP4Bocas del ToroHP9Los Santos

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Sources:

1.-LPRA 2003 Emergency Manual.

2.-Information provided by Eibar HP1DAI, Jose HP8AJT, Jose HP1BUM.

3.-Visit to the National System of Civil Protection headquarters, September 14, 2003.

73's Cesar P. Santos A. HR2CPS
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