FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GRANT PROVIDES HAND HELD RADIOS, FOR EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Kenner, LA. – Acting Mayor Michael G. Sigur announced that the City of Kenner has acquired 7 Motorola Apex 4000 hand-held radios and two IMPRES multi-unit charging stations through a federal grant program. The equipment, valued at approximately $13,000, will serve as a radio cache, to be used during emergencies or events requiring activation of the City’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

“During an emergency or major event, reliable and interoperable communications is vital. This equipment builds on the City’s already robust communications capability. These additional radios and charging stations allow us to expand communications to additional field units if needed. Our municipal employees, fire and police personnel are able to communicate with each other as well as with regional response partners” said Sigur.

The radios utilize the 800 MHz Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN), providing multiple talk groups that serve the needs of agencies supporting emergency response functions regionally and across Louisiana. LWIN is the largest statewide radio system in the country. It provides daily voice communications to more than 80,000 local, state, federal, and nongovernmental users, with over 70 percent at the local government level. For more information on LWIN, link to: http://gohsep.la.gov/ABOUT/UNIFIED-COMMAND-GROUP/Interoperability-Subcommittee/LWIN

Doug Dodt, Kenner’s Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, is a member of the Jefferson Parish Emergency Management Advisory Committee. The Committee works year round to identify parish and municipal homeland security and emergency preparedness needs. The Committee prioritizes projects and researches grants to secure funding for equipment and training. The Jefferson Parish Department of Emergency Management coordinated with Kenner’s Office of Emergency Management to acquire the equipment.

Kenner’s application for the equipment was approved by the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP). The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sets priorities and guidance for the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) that provided the funding.

For more information, check out Kenner’s Emergency Preparedness webpage at: http://www.kenner.la.us/pages/section_6_77.asp

Contact the Kenner Office of Emergency Management at (504) 471-2100 or email: OEM@kenner.la.us.