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About the Cover . . .

An emergency responder notifies the communications center that he has arrived on scene using a two-way pager. Richmond, VA introduces two-way paging to emergency services using a 900 MHz system.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As the New Year approaches, we as IMSA members should be eagerly awaiting the mid-winter Board of Directors meeting. Your Executive Committee, Governance Task Force, Constitution & By-Laws Committee, Section Alliance Task Force, Committee & Representatives Task Force and IMSA staff have been working throughout the entire 08 year to prepare for this upcoming meeting. Formal work on assessing the governance structure began in February of 2007. If the Board approves the resolution, all Active, Public Agency and Life Members will elect the President-Elect, who succeeds to President and Past President of the proposed seven-member Board of Directors. The remaining four Directors will be appointed by the Council of Delegates, as mentioned in my previous report.



William Moroski

As of November 1, 08, the article submission date for the January, 09 Journal, the following has transpired:

Chairman and Past President Paul Batchelor's Constitution and By-Laws Resolution Committee (CBRC) has been working diligently to meet the expectations of the Governance Task Force and the Board. I'm pleased to announce that the Committee has completed its first draft containing the proposed governance restructuring, as directed by the Board of Directors. The resolution is currently being examined by the IMSA's legal counsel. To insure that the original intent is preserved, the resolution will be returned to the Committee and Governance Task Force (GTF) before being presented to the Board. The Executive Committee will also have an opportunity to preview the document before the Board presentation.

The Resolution combines the Constitution and By-Laws into one concise document, eliminating redundancy, streamlining the legal necessities and moving non governance items to a newly created Governance Policy Manual (GPM). The GPM will also be presented to the Board as part of the resolution presentation.

Another integral aspect of the governance restructuring process is the work being performed by the Committee and Representative Task Force (CRTF). The CRTF has evaluated every By-Laws Standing Committee and will report their recommendations to the CBRC by 11-2-08. Other objectives yet to be delivered are; establishing or updating job descriptions, performance expectations, prerequisite qualifications and operating procedures for each position. Norm Akin, CRTF Chairman and Past President, assures me that the final recommendations will be delivered before the mid-winter meeting.

Dave Kumke, 2nd VP, is preparing a Board Manual, which will parallel the GPM. The Board Manual will be a dynamic guide for new and existing Directors.

The Section Alliance Task Force (SATF), under the chairmanship of Senior VP Craig MacKenzie, sent a second mailing of the section questionnaire on August 25th with responses due back by September 12th. It was sent to all section Secretaries and Section Directors. As a result, a few more responses were received, but not the 100% that the SATF was expecting. They are now calling the sections that haven't responded. In the meantime, they are actively gathering information and browsing documents from other organizations, to get ideas on how similar associations have formed agreements with their respective sections/chapters/affiliates. Upon completing their research, the SATF, will develop a Section Policy Handbook to assist Sections in their operations. An attorney for the IMSA will address the Board at the mid-winter meeting regarding Section charter legal issues.

The GTF is currently in idle mode, pending the attorney's report on the proposed

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT . . .

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By-Laws resolution.

Our Executive Director and staff have been working literally seven days a week to keep all of these committees and task forces supported. The efforts to date by volunteers would not be possible if not for the tireless effort of the staff, all of this in addition to their routine assignments. The same is true of the volunteers who make the IMSA the premier public safety association. A special thank you to Doug Akien is also in order. Doug is a part-time contract employee (Wireless Technologies Director, Past President, Educational Foundation Secretary/Treasurer, etc., etc.) who also delivers 24-7. Mr. IMSA is crucially involved in most every aspect of the IMSA. Please offer your gratitude to these selfless individuals at every opportunity.

In this New Year, may you and yours be blessed with all of God's goodness!