

Seminole Tribe of Florida



Emergency Communications



Seminole Tribe of Florida

An Introduction

- The Seminole Tribe is one of two Federally recognized Native American tribes in the State of Florida.
- The Seminole Tribe's lands consist of non contiguous reservations in Hollywood, Brighton, Big Cypress, Immokalee, Ft. Pierce, Lakeland, Coconut Creek, and Tampa.
- The Seminole Tribe's economy is based on Tourism, Gaming, Tobacco sales, and Agriculture.
- The Seminole Tribe was the first Tribe to introduce Native American Gaming.
- In 2007 the Seminole Tribe established itself as a global enterprise with its 1 Billion Dollar purchase of Hard Rock International.



Reservations and Communities



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Public Safety

The Tribal Council administers the Office of Public Safety which provides law enforcement, Fire Rescue/EMS, Wildland Fire and Emergency Management for all Seminole Tribe reservations in the State of Florida. STOF operates federally recognized reservations and Tribal trust lands located throughout Central and Southern Florida, encompassing approximately 90,000 acres. The Tribe's locations across the State include Hollywood (497 acres), Immokalee (600 acres), Brighton (35,805 acres), Big Cypress (52,338 acres), Tampa (39 acres), and Fort Pierce (60 acres). Tribal Headquarters are located on the Hollywood Reservation in an urban environment between Fort Lauderdale and Miami. There are more than 2,000 Tribal government employees; over 400 of those are in the Office of Public Safety. Additionally, there are nearly 8,000 employees in the Gaming Division.

In addition to public safety services, the Office of Public Safety maintains security for STOF's large-scale tourism industries on Tribal lands including multiple entertainment/resort properties in high-threat urban areas where the Seminole Hard Rock Hotels in Tampa and Hollywood are located. These venues typically have a 25,000 person daily occupancy rate in addition to their everyday visitors which amounts to over 10 million visitors per year.

Through the activities described above, STOF's Office of Public Safety has progressively grown into a comprehensive, all-hazard, multi-discipline entity that is actively involved in the preparation, response, and recovery processes for incidents.



Seminole Tribe of Florida Current LTE Utilization

Current LTE use for Tribal Public Safety is provided through the use of Verizon, Sprint, and AT&T data cards. The carrier choices are based on acceptable coverage in a particular geographic area.

- **Police-** Seminole Police Currently uses LTE data for Mobile Data Terminals for CAD operations, Email, Automated Vehicle Location, License Plate Recognition, and FDLE hosted applications such as NCIC and DAVID Intranet, and Internet Access.
- **Fire/Rescue-** Seminole Tribe Fire/Rescue uses LTE for MDT's for CAD operations, Email, Firehouse operations, Intranet, and Internet Access.
- **Emergency Management-** Email, Web EOC, Intranet, and Internet Access



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Recent Event

On Sunday Dec. 7th at approx. 6:45pm, a woman's vehicle stuck a Florida Black Bear on Snake Road on the Big Cypress Reservation, this road is a narrow curvy two lane road north of Alligator Alley with canals on both side and no shoulder or guard rails. The reservation borders Hendry and Broward County. 3 people stopped to render aid to the driver that struck the bear and her disabled vehicle. Another driver coming from the opposing direction at a high rate of speed side swiped and collided with the vehicles and people in the road killing 3 men and injuring 8 others, half of which had to be airlifted. Agencies involved were Broward Sheriff's Fire/Rescue, Seminole Tribe Fire/Rescue, Seminole Police Dept., and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Air Rescue Helicopters were sent in from Palm Beach County, Broward County, and Miami-Dade County. LTE Data was needed for each of these agencies to use to keep track of initial triage, and share documentation of the incident as it progressed. LTE coverage in this location was sparse. Pictures and reports from the different agencies could be shared to compose the full incident report.

Wouldn't it be nice that if in Mutual Aid incidents, such as this one, that everyone was using a common secure carrier that provided the ability for multiple agencies to open up a sharable on demand digital white board, The IC opens a laptop, tablet, device, ect. clicks a dropdown list of agencies to instantly share with and BAMM everyone could add notes, pictures, and other incident data as it is acquired. It will only work if we have coverage, and not just urban areas, even in small rural, nearly wilderness areas.



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The FirstNet Difference

FirstNet could allow our unique agencies, to not only interoperate with LTE data applications but it could allow us to “intraoperate” more efficiently within our own organization. One common LTE Data carrier with coverage on all of our non-contiguous reservations and in between. When that fire truck and crew or that police officer has to move to another reservation they don’t have to look around for what device is going to give them data where they are going. When XYZ mutual aid agency comes to help, they won’t have to worry about their MDT’s or other data driven devices working on our reservation. We will have coverage, dedicated coverage for ALL Public Safety.



Seminole Tribe of Florida A Unique Organization?

The Seminole Tribe of Florida is a unique organization, it is sovereign but it is not an island unto itself. Not only do they have their own primary Public Safety agencies, they also have secondary Public Safety users that could benefit from FirstNet. The Tribe manages their own Health Dept., Environmental Services, Forestry, Education Centers, Security for Museums and businesses, Public Works, Sanitation, Water Treatment, Aviation, and more. If there is a service that the State or local municipality provides its residents the Seminole Tribe of Florida probably has their own version in some scale to serve their communities.

Thank you.



Questions?