

# 2013-02-22 Planning Consideration (Sustainability)

Friday, March 28, 2014

2:30 PM

DHSMV: FloridaNet

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Posted by Rob Fortner on Feb 22 '13



I hope that a consideration addressed during the planning process is "long term sustainability." Florida's Interoperability Network was over-built to begin with, and now we have to rely on a process known as "FIN Central" because the post-contract award maintenance costs haven't been paid for by the Legislature. In fact, we're still relying on SHSGP grants to fund what remains of FIN. Making patches on behalf of other agencies now increases the workloads on local Sheriff's Office staffs, and dozens of workstations have been taken off-line and moth-balled because local agencies couldn't afford the \$600 per month maintenance fees to keep their FIN workstations and circuits operational.

Long term sustainability, like incident response demobilization, should be a planning consideration from the very beginning. Because *I wasn't involved in FIN planning and acquisition*, I can't say whether sustainability was addressed in the planning process. *I have been involved in funding discussions since FIN's deployment*, and can tell everyone that the gap between initial fielding and funding sustainment is a significant issue.

There should be a long-term funding mechanism created from the very beginning. Many local agencies have already deployed --and maintain-- their own local networks to which the State of Florida and the rest of the United States will be connected. How the cores and networks will be maintained (above the local level) needs to be identified from the start.

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