



# Tennessee (TN)

**PSIC Federal Award: \$17,540,752**

(Awarded September 30, 2007)

## Summary

PSIC Investment Justification	Federal Funds
Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)	\$1,358,500
Project 25 (P25) Master Switch	\$275,000
Tennessee Valley Regional 700/800 Megahertz (MHz) System	\$14,000,000
LETS Talk (Linked Emergency Telecommunications System)	\$412,007
Obion County	\$285,600
Portable Towers and Cache	615,000
Management and Administration (M&A)	\$493,788
Statewide Planning	\$100,857
<b>Total PSIC Award</b>	<b>\$17,540,752</b>

**Pass Through:** The State of Tennessee fulfilled the PSIC Grant Program requirement by passing through a minimum of 80 percent of the total award amount to local or tribal governments or authorized nongovernmental public safety agencies.

**Strategic Technology Reserve (STR):** Tennessee allocated \$1,358,500 to its STR Investment.

## Investments

### Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)

Federal Amount:	\$ 1,358,500
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 271,700
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 1,630,200</b>



<b>88%*</b> Acquisition & Deployment	<b>12%</b> Training & Exercise	<b>0%</b> Planning & Coordination
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*\*Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Tennessee does not have a strategic technology reserve (STR) in place that is pre-positioned, deployable or capable of re-establishing communications in the event of total system failure. However, the State does maintain a mobile command unit and trailers that have limited ability to re-establish communications at the site of a major disaster or emergency incident. This Investment provides for a radio cache, a radio site-on-wheels, and training and exercises on this STR equipment. The mobile towers and vehicles will use wireless and satellite connections to re-establish communications, and training will include the Communications Unit Leader Training (COML) for public safety personnel. This Investment satisfies the PSIC Program requirement to develop and implement an STR that is pre-positioned, deployable, and able to reestablish communications when critical communications equipment is damaged or destroyed.

### Project 25 (P25) Master Switch

Federal Amount:	\$ 275,000
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 1,000,000
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 1,275,000</b>



<b>100%*</b> Acquisition & Deployment	<b>0%</b> Training & Exercise	<b>0%</b> Planning & Coordination
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*\*Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The State of Tennessee does not have a statewide interoperable system. The Tennessee Department of Corrections (DOC) has purchased a Project 25 (P25)-compliant radio system, using a P25 master switch, located in Nashville. The DOC has offered the use of this master switch to any public service agency in the State. By granting access to the statewide DOC shared system, public service agencies can achieve true interoperability. This Investment will provide funding that will allow the State to activate the remaining portions of the switch and allow other public safety agencies to connect at no cost. Additionally, this Investment will provide localized interoperability for any public safety agency on the system, enable radios to communicate on a shared system with a designated emergency channel, and will facilitate an effective response to emergency incidents or major disasters.

## Tennessee Valley Regional 700/800 Megahertz (MHz) System



Federal Amount:	\$ 14,000,000
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 13,000,000
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 27,000,000</b>

<b>99%*</b> Acquisition & Deployment	<b>&lt;1%</b> Training & Exercise	<b>&lt;1%</b> Planning & Coordination
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*\*Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The State of Tennessee highlighted several emergency communications gaps for public safety agencies located in the Tennessee Valley Region during a Homeland Security District Drill. Evaluators found that geographical features in the Tennessee Valley region limit communications capabilities along this corridor, as well as the State Emergency Operations Center in Nashville. In addition, local public safety agencies in this region operate on disparate radio systems, which further hinder interoperability. This Investment will provide for the purchase of a Project 25 (P25) 700/800 megahertz (MHz) Regional Interoperable Communication System capable of simulcast trunking that will connect existing trunking systems to the regional system and provide expanded coverage and a common infrastructure on which public safety agencies can communicate.

## LETS Talk (Linked Emergency Telecommunications System)



Federal Amount:	\$ 412,007
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 82,402
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 494,409</b>

<b>100%*</b> Acquisition & Deployment	<b>0%</b> Training & Exercise	<b>0%</b> Planning & Coordination
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*\*Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Tennessee has a number of public safety agencies still operating on low band, which does not allow those first responders to communicate seamlessly across county or regional lines. The Linked Emergency Telecommunications System (LETS Talk) Investment will provide for the development of a regional VHF, UHF, and 800 MHz system using mutual aid channels built on a simulcast platform. The system will use microwave connectivity for the backbone between all sites and provide a single platform on which public safety agencies can communicate, regionally at first, and eventually statewide. Federal, State, and local agencies will have access to the system, which will improve interoperability within and among all levels of government. This Investment will benefit Nashville, the State's capital, and the surrounding six counties.

## Obion County



Federal Amount:	\$ 285,600
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 71,400
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 357,000</b>

<b>100%*</b> Acquisition & Deployment	<b>0%</b> Training & Exercise	<b>0%</b> Planning & Coordination
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*\*Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

First responders in Obion County use multiple frequency bands (i.e., VHF, UHF, 800 MHz) to communicate; however, public safety personnel operating on different bands of the radio spectrum are unable to talk to each other on a common channel or talkgroup and this has created a significant communication gap for first responders. Obion County is migrating from a single-site 800 MHz trunked system to a countywide simulcast 800 MHz trunked radio system. This Investment will provide for the acquisition of P25 handheld radios for all first-responder disciplines, City and County school systems, and a small radio reserve for the County's operations center. This acquisition will allow responders of multiple disciplines using different radio systems to communicate with each other, with the Regional Response Center in Jackson, and with the State Operations Center in Nashville.

## Portable Towers and Cache



Federal Amount:	\$ 615,000
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 112,000
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 727,000</b>

<b>92%*</b> Acquisition & Deployment	<b>8%</b> Training & Exercise	<b>0%</b> Planning & Coordination
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*\*Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Currently, Memphis and Shelby County public safety agencies (Police, Sheriff, Fire, EMA and EMS) use a common 800 MHz trunked system, while other public safety agencies use a variety of radio systems, including VHF and UHF. There is not a single statewide system that would allow interoperability between response agencies in these regions, or a redundant system to ensure continuity of communications in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. This Investment will provide for the purchase of portable radio towers and portable radios in multiple bands, including VHF, UHF, and dual 700/800 MHz to support all public agencies in the event of a disaster. The radios and towers will be located in Homeland Security District 11 and will be available for use throughout the State. The Investment also provides for COML instructor courses for Tennessee public safety personnel, which will ensure effective command and control during major incidents. Lastly, the Investment will provide backup and redundant communication systems for State and local public safety agencies and leadership training to coordinate an effective response to disasters and major incidents.

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## PSIC Administration and Statewide Planning Costs

### Management and Administration (M&A)

Federal Amount:	\$ 493,788
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 100,000
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 593,788</b>

The State was allowed to retain up to three percent of the total PSIC award for costs associated with the administration of the State's PSIC Investments. The M&A costs could include hiring full-time or part-time staff or contractors for grant management services related to reporting, monitoring and audit compliance, and associated travel and meeting expenses.

### Statewide Planning

Federal Amount	\$ 100,857
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The State was allowed to retain up to five percent of the total PSIC award for Statewide Planning costs associated with the incorporation of the PSIC criteria into the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP). The Statewide Planning period of performance was April 1, 2007–December 3, 2007, with the submission of the SCIP.

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