



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
MILITARY DEPARTMENT**

*Camp Murray, Washington 98430
www.mil.wa.gov*

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

July 20, 2022

TO: State, Local, and Tribal Alert Originators; Broadcasters; Wireless Carriers

SUBJECT: 2022 Washington State Public Alert and Warning System Plan

I am pleased to promulgate the 2022 Washington State Public Alert and Warning System (WA-PAWS) Plan. The plan can be found at <https://mil.wa.gov/wa-paws> and provides the framework for statewide use of the federal Integrated Public Alert and Warning System by state, local, and tribal alert originators in collaboration with local broadcasters, wireless carriers, and the National Weather Service. I recognize and appreciate the collaborative effort of all parties involved at the federal, state, local, and tribal levels as well as the private sector.

The plan complies with the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) current regulations. It also addresses the use of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) along with Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEM).

Since the current inception of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) in 1997, the Washington State EAS Plan has been maintained by the State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC), a voluntary body composed of federal, state, local, and tribal alert originators, broadcast, and wireless carrier representatives. This revision of the EAS Plan establishes a closer relationship between the SECC and the Washington Military Department's Emergency Management Division.

Providing coordinated, prompt, reliable, and actionable information to the whole community through clear, consistent, accessible, and culturally and linguistically appropriate methods to effectively relay information regarding any threat or hazard is a core emergency management capability. Best practices suggest that public warnings be disseminated using multiple systems to effectively reach the population at risk.

IPAWS, EAS, WEA, and NWEM along with other public warning systems are critical tools to warn the citizens of Washington about imminent threats to life safety, property, and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Ezelle".

Robert Ezelle, Director