

The logo is a circular emblem with a red outer ring containing the text "EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS" at the top and "RADIO AMATEUR OPERATIONS" at the bottom. The inner blue circle features a satellite, a laptop, a radio tower, and a satellite dish, all with yellow lightning bolts indicating signal transmission. The acronym "A.C.S." is written in large yellow letters at the bottom of the inner circle.

Pinellas ACS Communications Exercise

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Communications Exercise



- You will be presented with several Scenarios
 - Describe what you would do when presented with the events described in the scenario.
 - Explain why your selected course of action is correct.
 - Describe what should not take place during the scenario and explain why.
 - Do you consider the events described in the scenario to be an emergency? Explain your answer.



Scenario 1



Set-up: You are talking to a friend on a local repeater when a station breaks in with the following information:

Scenario: “This is KZ4XYZ. I am at mile marker 107 of I75 north. The road is blocked by an overturned semi.”

What should you do?



Scenario 2

Set-up: The Pinellas ACS has been activated due to Severe weather event. A tornado has touched down in a residential area causing serious damage. At least two evacuation shelters have just been opened. You are the NCS for the Tactical Resource net and hear the following:

Scenario: "This is KZ4XYZ. I am a few blocks away from the damaged subdivision and I'm headed over there now to see if I can help."

What should you do?



Scenario 3



Set-up: A strong category 4 hurricane has just made landfall on the northeast coast of Georgia. You are listening to the HF hurricane watch net from your home in Pinellas County when you hear the following:

Scenario: “This is KZ4XYZ. I am located at the Saint Mercy hospital in small town GA. A section of our roof has caved-in. Power and cell service is out. We need immediate assistance. Any station please respond.”

Follow-up: No one else on the net appears to hear KZ4XYZ.

What should you do?



Scenario 4



Scenario: You are at home. Severe weather has entered Pinellas County with heavy rain, extremely strong winds, and constant lightning. Power, phone, and cell service are inoperative. The storm abates as quickly as it started. You venture outside and see downed trees and damaged homes. The street is littered with debris.

What should you do?

How is this Scenario different from Scenario 2?



Scenario 5

Scenario: During a local net, the net control station received an emergency call from a regular net check-in saying he was trapped inside his house, and he needed the police immediately.

- The NCS suspended normal net operations and engaged the station with the emergency.
- The NCS called her local 911 (Polk County) and Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) and finally got the message through to Pasco County who sent police and paramedics to the ham's home.
- Additionally, a local ham, was listening and realized he was a short distance from the emergency location and proceeded there.
- The deployed Ham provided updates and ensured the net that emergency responders were on the scene working the situation.

Follow-up: The ham radio operator with the emergency confirmed later that he had been rescued and was safe. He said that when he became entrapped, all he had with him was his handheld transceiver. He couldn't reach his cell phone.

Was everything done correctly?
What would you do differently?



Conclusion



- Comments and questions