



# Second Wednesday's

July 11, 2012

**MARCS - Communication Shared Services Program**

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

MARCS is Ohio's computer and communications network designed to provide voice and data communication as well as a communications backbone to statewide public safety and emergency management. In the past year, there have been several events where coordination of responses and support from multiple jurisdictions was enabled through MARCS. The Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS), which oversees MARCS, has been authorized by the Ohio General Assembly, with Controlling Board Approval, to upgrade the MARCS system to Project 25 standards and a 700/800 MHz platform. Joining MARCS can help offset expensive upgrades to end of life radio systems. Reduce the complexity of mission critical communications by moving to a shared service platform — MARCS.

## PRESENTERS

**Brad Cole**, Managing Director of Research, CCAO

**The Honorable Chris Widener**, State Senator—District 10 & Chair, Senate Finance Committee

**Bob Blair**, Director, Ohio Department of Administrative Services

**Darryl Anderson**, Program Manager, Ohio MARCS, DAS

**Stu Davis**, Assistant Director/CIO, Office of Information Technology, DAS

## AGENDA—9:30-12:30

- 9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- 9:40 a.m. The MARCS Interoperability Challenge
- 9:55 a.m. Overview of MARCS
- 10:25 a.m. Design, Construction & Operation of MARCS
- 11:25 a.m. Application of Shared Services Model to MARCS
- 11:55 a.m. Summary & Discussion of Potential for MARCS
- 12:25 p.m. Questions & Answers
- 12:30 p.m. Adjourn

**County Commissioners Association of Ohio**

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**MARCS—Communication Shared Services Program**

## **Speakers**

### **BRAD COLE**

Managing Director of Research

County Commissioners Association of Ohio

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Brad Cole is the Managing Director of Research for the County Commissioners Association of Ohio. In this capacity Brad coordinates and manages the research, data, and technical publications prepared and distributed by the association; maintains research data bases, develops survey instruments; and promotes the CCAO Educational and Research Foundation. In addition, Brad provides legislative advocacy and member's services in taxation and finance, permissive taxes, auditing and accounting, county budget procedures, county debt, purchasing, investment policy, and general government legislation that impacts counties including transportation and infrastructure, tax abatement, and solid waste management. He is the liaison to the CCAO Taxation and Finance Committee. Cole holds a Bachelor of Arts cum laude and Master of Arts degrees in American History from Bowling Green State University.

### **THE HONORABLE CHRIS WIDENER**

State Senator—District 10

Ohio Senate

One Capitol Square • Columbus, OH 43215

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State Senator Chris Widener represents the 10th Senate District, which includes Madison, Clark and Greene counties. Before coming to the Senate, he served three terms as the State Representative for the 84th House District. He is an architect by trade. Senator Widener serves as Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, which is responsible for the budgetary and fiscal matters of the state. As part of his Chairmanship duties, Widener is the ranking Senator on the State Controlling Board, which operates in three key arenas of state government: fiscal and budgetary, purchasing, and legislative oversight. The Senator also services on the Senate Committees for Ways and Means and Economic Development, Government Oversight and Reform, and Rules and Reference.

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Senator Widener also serves on the Development Financing Advisory Council, which approves loans and grants for economic development projects across Ohio, and he was appointed to the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, which was established to help remove barriers to educational success faced by military children because of frequent moves or deployment by their parents.

## **ROBERT BLAIR**

Director

Ohio Department of Administrative Services

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Robert (Bob) Blair has a long history as a public servant dating back to the 1970s, where he began as a teacher for Medina Senior High School. He went on to work for the Ohio Senate. Blair served as a city manager for both the City of Tiffin and City of Pickerington. Blair has a nearly 15-year record serving in senior leadership capacities at the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). At ODOT, Blair served as chief executive assistant to the director and later as the deputy director for human resources, overseeing the agency's personnel, facilities and labor relations operations. At ODJFS he served as assistant director. Bob also worked in economic development in the private sector and for the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. He joined the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (ODAS) as director on January, 2011. Bob earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Findlay and is a native of Chagrin Falls. He is a member of the Pickerington Library Board.

## **DARRYL ANDERSON**

Program Manager, Ohio MARCS

Ohio Department of Administrative Services

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Darryl Anderson has served as first the Project Manager of the Ohio Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS) during its design and roll-out in the 2001-2004 timeframe, and as the Program Director for MARCS since. MARCS is a statewide 800 MHz trunked digital platform serving over 700 agencies and deploying over 40,000 individual public safety radios statewide. He now resumes the project management role as he oversees the deployment of first a P-25 700 MHz overlay and ultimately the consolidation of the current 800 MHz platform into a statewide, integrated 700/800 MHz P-25 platform capable of serving all first responders in Ohio on the single platform.

Prior to his MARCS assignment, Darryl was an Ohio State Trooper for 31 years, retiring with the rank of Major. He is currently a Deputy Sheriff in Pickaway County, Ohio. Darryl holds undergraduate degrees from Ohio University and The Ohio State University, as well as two post-graduate degrees from Ohio State.

## **STU DAVIS**

Assistant Director/Chief Information Officer  
Office of Information Technology  
Ohio Department of Administrative Services  
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Stu Davis currently serves as the State Chief Information Officer and Assistant Director for the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Office of Information Technology. Davis has a varied background in IT leadership and management, including infrastructure, enterprise shared services, and spatial technologies. Prior to his appointment as CIO, Davis served as the State Chief Operating Officer and deputy director of the Infrastructure Services Division within DAS/OIT.

As the State Chief Information Officer, Davis leads, oversees and directs state agency activities related to information technology development and use. As Assistant Director of DAS, Davis oversees the Office of Information Technology which delivers statewide information technology and telecommunication services to state government agencies, boards and commissions as well as policy and standards development, lifecycle investment planning and privacy and security management.

Davis also serves as Chair of the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program (OGRIP) Council that provides geographic information systems (GIS) coordination across the state between all levels of government. He is a 14 year member and past president of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC). His career spans 31 years focused on state and local government with 12 years of hands on experience in local government, 14 years in state government and 5 years in the private sector consulting to state and local government on GIS/IT initiatives.