



# PRESS RELEASE

## ETCOG Grants \$100,004 to Continue CodeRED Emergency Notification System for a Fifth Year

**Kilgore, TX, December 17, 2013:** This month, the ETCOG Executive Committee approved a fifth year of funding CodeRED, a reverse emergency notification system, for the East Texas region as a part of its public safety program. The CodeRED system, funded by a Homeland Security grant, is a telephone communication service that allows the county/city Emergency Management Coordinator to quickly notify citizens about emergency situations such as:

- o Tornadoes and storm events;
- o Drinking water contamination;
- o Utility outage;
- o Evacuation notice and route;
- o Missing person;
- o Fires or floods;
- o Bomb threat;
- o Hostage situation;
- o Chemical spill or gas leak; and
- o Other emergency incidents where rapid and accurate notification is essential.

The CodeRED system has been contracted through the Emergency Communications Network since 2009 for all of the counties served by ETCOG, with the exception of Henderson County, due to their 9-1-1 district already providing a reverse notification system. A total of five years of billing with a sum of \$810,064 has been granted by ETCOG, to date, to provide East Texas with CodeRED including the 2013 - 2014 contract approved for \$100,004. A breakdown of this year's contract for the East Texas region is as follows:

AGENCY	COST PER YEAR	ANNUAL MINUTES
Anderson County	\$4,785	22,500
City of Palestine	\$3,828	15,000
Camp County	\$2,871	9,375
Cherokee County	\$4,785	22,500
City of Jacksonville	\$2,871	9,375
Gregg County	\$4,785	22,500
City of Longview	\$9,569	50,000
Harrison County	\$4,785	22,500
City of Marshall	\$3,828	15,000
City of Athens	\$2,871	9,375
Marion County	\$2,871	9,375
Panola County	\$3,828	15,000
Rains County	\$2,871	9,375
Rusk County	\$5,742	25,000

Smith County	\$9,569	50,000
City of Tyler	\$11,962	62,500
Upshur County	\$5,742	25,000
Van Zandt County	\$3,828	15,000
City of Canton	\$2,871	9,375
Wood County	\$5,742	25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,004</b>	

All citizens and business are encouraged to register their cell phone numbers by logging onto their county websites or contacting their county Emergency Management Coordinator. For more information, contact ETCOG's Director of Public Safety, Stephanie Heffner, at 903.218.6461.

**About ETCOG**

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.

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