

November 24, 2020 – by K6PDS

## **SHINGLETOWN EMERGENCY RADIO PLAN – REMAINS UNDER ATTACK.**

TO: Dar Walker, President of STARC:

CC: All Shingletown Radio Operators (Ham and Non Ham)

This evening you, and other STARC members during your STARC Net, falsely claimed that the desired non use of the 165 repeater between 8:00 P.M. and 8:00 A.M., for other than emergency or priority traffic (“8:00 O’CLOCK procedure”) was never the policy of STARC. You claimed that I (Nathan) had self imposed this “curfew” on the 165 repeater, which was not even owned by me, and that I was not even a STARC member. You made it sound like I was some rogue Ham who just imposed the procedure. Your statements are false. I remind you that I only recently resigned from STARC after you, DAR WALKER, took steps to take over and then destroy the SER Program. Tonight, multiple false statements continued to be made by you and others. It was interesting, and discouraging, that no one did anything to correct the erroneous and false statements. A Jelly fish would have stood taller.

If you are going to change the policy of STARC, then change it.

However, you must stop making up false statements and lies about the policy and the participatory role STARC and the 165 repeater had in the SER Plan and the “8:00 O’CLOCK procedure. If this “new” STARC “Ham Chit Chat 24/7 policy”, referenced during your Net tonight, had been the “policy” of STARC for the 165 repeater, the 165 repeater wouldn’t have been included in the SER SCAN programming of all the radios in Shingletown. For you to claim otherwise, is simply false.

The “8:00 O’CLOCK procedure” (part of the “SCAN procedure”) was not a “curfew”. You and I had discussed the policy. Others with STARC were clearly aware of it, and they were following the procedure. The SER Plan radios for Shingletown were programmed with this procedure in place. You and Terry were involved with the programing of the radios. Claimed ignorance is disgusting!

Again, why did such SER Policy exist? Because, at the time STARC and you recognized and agreed that people would not listen and monitor a radio frequency for forest fires and other emergency alerts if they were going to be subjected to being awakened at all hours of the night having to listen to Hams “Chit Chat”. Having actually monitored, I have been awakened by Hams “Chit Chat” at all hours of the early morning (including: 2:00 A.M, 3:00 A.M etc...). Other Stations have also been awakened by such “Chit Chat” hams. One common fact is that those “Ham Chit Chatters” are not there when Shingletown has been faced with wildfires threatening life and property!

We had discussed how another purported “emergency” ham group has to be contacted by telephone to even activate its radio stations. They don’t monitor; and no one is on frequency unless for “Chit Chat”, or there is a pre-planned net. You agreed that such was not effective for immediately alerting neighborhoods as to a raging fire (e.g., Paradise fire).

Of course, under the SER Plan, emergency communications are to be made at any time day or night under the "Scan Plan". It was mutually agreed that serious minded Hams were needed for the task of monitoring. Again, its purpose was and remains to facilitate 24/7 monitoring so that fires and other emergencies could be reported early. You and other STARC members (and at the time I was a STARC member, before my recent resignation) had agreed to follow the SER Plan (which included this aspect). Part of being a SER Plan Area Coordinator (Ham), was that each Coordinator agreed to follow the SER Plan. It was mutually recognized that having more people actually monitoring increases community emergency notification capability. This SER Procedure actually benefited Shingletown residents during this past fire season, as well as prior years.

Now, this "8:00 O'CLOCK procedure" has suddenly become your new "political weapon". But, this was only AFTER you abandoned your position as the Cal Fire Monitor during the recent double - 2 fire incident in Shingletown (a SER Plan Full Activation). At that time, you then provided a bogus "Cal Fire report" to hide the fact that you were not monitoring (you could have stated that you were not listening to Cal Fire, and missed the traffic, but you chose to make up a bogus report). Then you subsequently attempted to takeover of the SER program. Following that, you then set about to destroy the SER Program by seeking to deny the SER Plan the use of the 760 and 165 repeaters. The 760 repeater remains fully devoted to the SER Plan, wildfire emergency notification and other emergencies (as I am the control operator).

If you want to exclude the 165 repeater from the SER program that is your decision. But STARC and you need to at least have the honesty to say the STARC policy has changed. Your slanderous remarks on the air are getting old.

STARC should try honesty and merely advise all those people who have radios in Shingletown that the STARC policy is now changed, if that be the case, and that the 165 repeater is now intended for 24 hour use by any ham desiring to "CHIT CHAT" at any hour of the day or night; and that Ham Chit Chat is more important to STARC and its members than emergency wild fire alerting in Shingletown. That way Shingletown radio operators who are serious about emergency forest fire alerting communications (and other emergencies) can exclude the 165 from their Scan so they aren't awakened late at night and pre-dawn early morning hours.

The task of SER reprogramming over 150 Shingletown radios will be huge. And, it is realistic that not all will be able to be reprogrammed. That alone will cause potential massive confusion. Thus, the STARC change of policy may have very adverse ramifications during emergency wild fires. As you have discussed with me, you previously recognized and agreed that people will merely turn off their radios when they hear "chit chat" at 2:00 A.M. You had agreed that the whole emergency notification purpose is defeated under that type of situation. The STARC change of policy is very disturbing and poses a high risk of grave harm to Shingletown.

Just let people know that the 165 repeater is now for Hams to use anytime for mere chit chat (e.g., 10:00 P.M.; 2:00 A.M., 3:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M., etc...) and that the emergency communication purpose of 24/7 monitoring is no longer of interest to STARC and no longer applies to the 165 repeater owned by STARC. Tonight you advised the "STARC committee" would be reviewing such matter and referenced FCC rule violations. Your attempt to again destroy the SER Program by referencing claimed violation of FCC rules is defamatory, slanderous and actionable at law. You did the same game as to claimed FCC rule violation when a non ham had to be used for a very brief period of time during the Double Shingletown

Emergency Fire Net when you had abandoned your post of monitoring the Cal Fire Dispatch frequency. During the net tonight, you and other STARC members attacked and slandered me. I have attempted to de-escalate this situation, but you are making that very difficult.

The people of Shingletown, that have spent money for radios and antennas, deserve to know if the local STARC Ham Club is changing the policy for the 165 repeater, and if it is now dedicated solely to Hams and Chit Chat at any hour of the day or night.

Of course you should recognize that this will be of concern to those in Shingletown that actually do monitor 24/7. The few of us that do, have provided alerts to areas late at night and in the early pre-dawn hours as to wild land fire activity and/or house fires near neighborhoods. Yes, Terry (AJ6KJ), that includes you. Remember the Fire in your neighborhood? Do you remember the generator explosion near your neighborhood? Both fires had spread to the vegetation. In the one case Cal Fire Water Tenders were unable to locate hydrants as the fire burned in your neighborhood, just up the street from your home. You were not aware of either fire until I contacted you and alerted you. At the time you were very concerned about the fires, and thankful for the notifications from me. But, now, on the radio, you play the victim game. Moreover, you haven't even had the courage to stand up and correct Bonnie's derogatory statements she made about me concerning your 2019 situation during another STARC "feeding frenzy" net.

Also, it would be appreciated if STARC would advise as to the identity of the Station who again repeatedly keyed (without identifying) the 760 repeater, 165 repeater and 505 simplex (the SER SCAN PLAN), this time starting at approximately 0545 hours this morning (11/24/2020). This jeopardizes the SER Plan and emergency communications plan. Of course, I recognize that such didn't bother anyone who was not actually monitoring the SER Scan Plan.

Now, this evening there has been additional keying of the 760 repeater, without any required FCC Identification (at: 2128 hours, and 2136 hours, 11/24/2020). This is following the slanderous STARC attacks during your Net this evening. Please provide the information as to the station(s) doing this.

We had another fire recently (after the above referenced double fire) in the area of the High Power Lines near Highway 44. The fire was approximately 2/10 ths of a mile from residences. Additionally, Inwood, Midway and the Village neighborhoods were in close proximity. Myself and a few other Hams were working the SER Fire Net Activation. Several requests for more help from any other Hams were made on the Fire Net Frequency. There was no additional help provided and there was no response! Just dead silence. I later learned that several STARC Hams heard the requests, listened to the Fire Net, and did nothing to help. Boycotting a Shingletown Fire Net, WOW! That "probably" doesn't help STARC's long term standing in the community of Shingletown.

Tonight on your STARC Net, you glad handed each other, and patted yourselves on the back. But, your actions are rendering you irrelevant to Shingletown while letting your neighbors down.

Thank you.

Nathan Zelif, Esq.  
Developer / Director – Shingletown Emergency Radio Plan