# Warren County · Ohio TELECOMatters
### our monthly newsletter of things that matter. all things Telecom.

**Pictured above:** Telcom believes in redundancies—during the 2024 Election, Joshua Moyer, Telecom's Public Safety Systems Manager, helped prepare a "Back-Up" Dispatch Center at Telecom.

## Happy Holidays from TELECOM

### Coming in 2025!
*A NEW LOOK to our TELECOMatters Newsletter!*

**REMINDER: MONTHLY MAINTENANCE - Wednesday, December 18, 2024**
*Central Square maintenance - 5:00am – 8:00am
*Monthly maintenance - 5:00pm– 8:00pm https://status.wcpsn.net/

## NEW Back-up Dispatching Consoles

Telecom has been working with Emergency Services to developed and test a new mobile option for the Emergency Communications Center that can be quickly deployed in the event the communications center needs to evacuate. We have purchased, setup and tested a new laptop option. These laptops are setup the same as the communication centers workstations so the transition would be almost seamless. We are in the process of setting up the additional laptops and will work to have them ready to be mobile soon.

This project was headed by Telecom's Public Safety Systems Manager, Joshua Moyer, and Data Systems Technician 3, Philip Bomer.



*Pictured: above: Workstation Op 5 in Warren County Communications Center*

## WEBRMS and END OF YEAR REPORTS

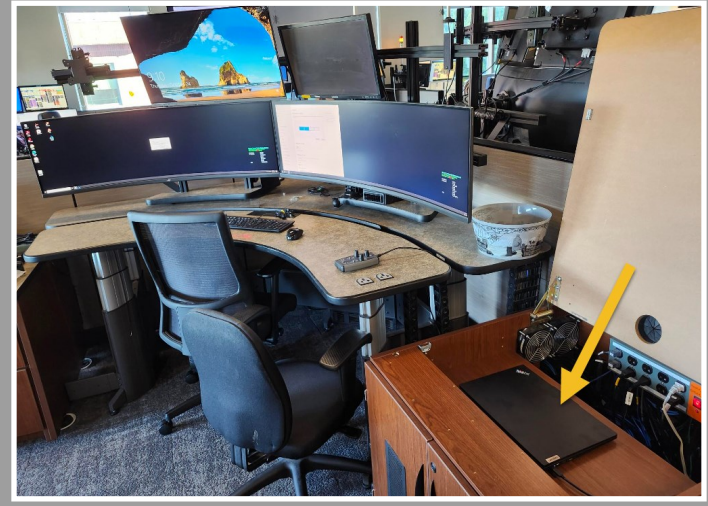| Status |
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It is that time of year again! A few weeks away and your agency will be wanting end-of-year numbers for those annual reports! We have received questions regarding numbers not matching up. This usually means it is because the reports are just hanging in limbo.

If your agency has reports in this status, REVIEW, IN PROGRESS, or REJECTED under the Report Administration, they will not be counted as your end of the year reports.

## NEW Excel FORMAT for the 2024 Benefit Assessment Report (BAR)!

With Microsoft Publisher nearing end of life in October 2026, Lisa Hicks, Telecom's Community Manager decided to take a head start approach and convert the BAR for 2024 into an EXCEL format (instead of Microsoft Publisher (pdf)). This will be an editable document that will allow you to color code the "audit" for products & services that are **Good/Need updated/No good**.

The reviewer will need to:
- Click EACH tab at the bottom to review inventory
- Click in the cell of the item to inventory
- Color code green/yellow/red (see below)
- After you have gone through all tabs, SAVE your changes
- Send excel document back to **help@wcoh.net**

This will provide an easier way to inventory and audit the products and services that are provided to our Warren County Partners and Agencies, and this will become a new **"Best Practice"** at Telecom. *Be on the lookout for your BAR in February/March 2025 (you will have 30 days to complete after receipt).*

Questions?
Contact Lisa Hicks **HERE**

## Telecom donates 15 Radios to North Carolina

**In the wake of Hurricane Helene, many Public Safety departments in North Carolina lost significant amounts of equipment. In response, Telecom donated 15 portable radio kits to the Avery County, North Carolina Sheriff's office. Hoping to help alleviate the shortage of radios, and get them back on the air quickly, Telecom's Paul Kindell, Director, saw this as a great opportunity to donate radios for this dire mission.**
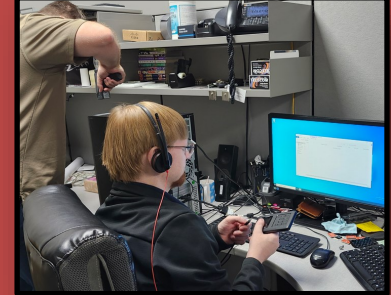


*Pictured: above Alex Mokrycki, Communications Systems Supervisor and Steven Jennison, Communication Systems Analyst*

## WINDOWS and MOBILE DATA COMPUTERS/LAPTOPS
### TECH BULLETIN UPDATE—CLICK HERE

It is time to start thinking about Mobile Data Computer/MDC (MDC – any mobile device with a Windows OS (operating system) that connects to the PSN (Public Safety Network) via VPN (Netmotion) and their future with the upcoming Windows 11.
**The end date for Telecom's use of Windows 10 will be July 31, 2025.**

We will not begin Windows 11 installation until 2025. With Windows 11, there are restrictions coming from Microsoft that cannot be upgraded on existing hardware.

As it stands, the CF-19, CF-31, CF-20 MK 1, CF33-MK 1, and the G1 are not supported by the Windows 11 processor requirement. Current models that support upgrading to Windows 11 are CF-20 Mk2, CF-33 Mk2 FZ-55, G2 Surface pro's 6, 7, 8. Philip Bomer will be following up with individual department emails containing MDC lists of what is and isn't supported.

Here are the current systems from Panasonic Toughbook line:

* **G2-CF20** replacement CLICKHERE * **CF-33** CLICK HERE * **FZ-55** CLICK HERE
* **CF-40** - Fully-rugged FZ-55 (No one has yet)



*Pictured: Philip Bomer, Data Systems Tech 3, and Jeff Boutell, Data Systems Tech 1*

*Need help?* **Help@wcoh.net** 513-695-HELP

## Warren County · Ohio
# TELECOMatters
our monthly newsletter of things that matter. all things Telecom.
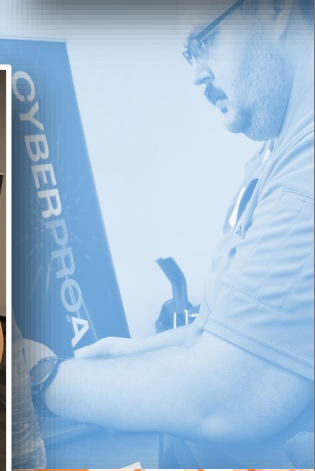
TELECOM
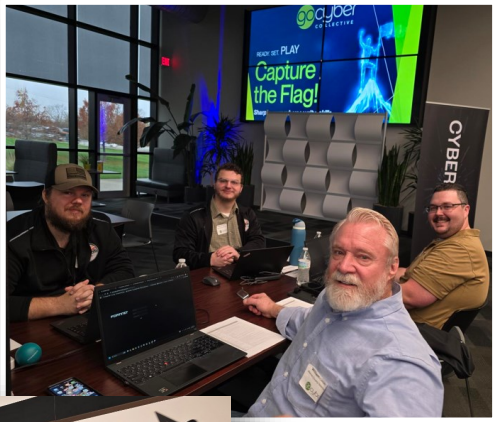Warren County · Ohio

## Go Cyber Collective "Capture The Flag"

On November 18 & 19, Four of Telecom Members invested their time at the gocyber Capture the Flag. At this popular cyber security competition, they built skills in detecting a cyber threat, as well as got tested on how to fund security vulnerabilities in a simulated, risk-free IT environment.

We are extremely proud of the work this group did as they developed, enhanced and improved their already abundant technical skills. They represented Warren County and Telecom well. They also demonstrated what it means to be Telecom, very resourceful, collaborated well and used their "hands on" knowledge! The Telecom Team took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in first round one!

*For more about this event, read HERE*

**Warren County Telecom was represented by:** William Cornett (Cyber Security Analyst), Tommy Kramer (Data Systems Analyst 1), Charles Zugaro (Infrastructure Analyst 1), Jeff Boutell (Data Systems Tech 1) with support from Dustin Flint (Infrastructure Systems Manager) and Joseph Newton (Data Systems Supervisor)

## Meet another Telecom AuxComm Volunteer!

**Steve Weigold**

**Prior to joining the AuxComm team:** I started working with QRZ.com as a Staff Engineer. QRZ is one of the largest websites related to Amateur Radio and my primary responsibility is support for the current version of the site's radio communications logbook and development of the next generation of software for radio operators to log their communications. In parallel with my various electronics related experience over the years, I spent 35 years in the fire and EMS service, holding rank as high as Chief and Assistant Chief in two different departments. I'm retired now, but reached the certification level of Critical Care Paramedic and served as a paramedic for 22 of those 35 years. I've been an Amateur Radio Operator since 1987 and currently hold the level of Extra Class Operator.

**I started my education** in electronics in the US Navy as a Nuclear Electronics Technician and continued it at the University of Cincinnati. Over the years I've developed a widely varied skill set. Here at Telecom/AuxComm, I'm looking forward to assisting with training of members, participation in supporting the group's technical needs and documentation of policies and procedures as well as, of course, assisting with communications whenever needed!

**In my spare time,** I enjoy photography, remote control cars, RC helicopters and boats (of both the RC and normal variety) as well as motorcycles and scuba diving to name a few.

**Fun fact:** One of my many other hobbies is that I like to sew and am fairly adept with a sewing machine. When that comes up in conversation, I've been known to remark that my sewing machine sits right next to my welder. For a while, that was actually true. Their carts did reside side by side in my workshop!

### Years of Service & Birthdays

COREY BURTON
9 YEARS!

JOE NEWTON
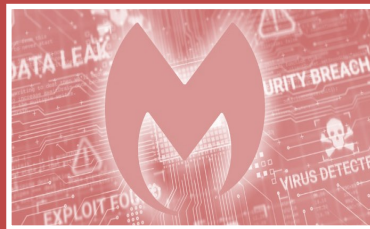9 YEARS!

JEREMIAH MARCUM 12/6

ALEX MOKRYCKI 12/19

## Cybersecurity Threat—Beware of Malware!

Cybercriminals are using new tricks to sneak malware into emails, hiding it in special ZIP files that can bypass some security tools. These files might look harmless, but they can contain harmful programs designed to steal information or damage systems.

Telecom has email pre-filters in place to catch this type of attack, but it's always good to back up automated defenses with human adjudication.

For example, you might receive an email about a shipping update with an attachment that seems safe, but it's hiding malware. This is why we can't assume that every email in our inbox is safe.

*Here's what you can do:* if an email seems odd like it's from someone you don't know, or it asks you to act quickly, **stop and think**. Don't open attachments or click on links unless you're sure they're safe. If you're unsure, report the email to your security team right away! Being cautious and reporting suspicious emails helps keep you and your company protected from cyber threats.

## #TCKudos Recognition!

Kudos are for above-and-beyond actions taken by a Telecom team member or someone Telecom interacts with. They can be submitted throughout the year via our website or a physical card at our office. #TCKudos are then posted on our Kudos Board all month long before being tallied and delivered! If you receive a #TCKudos, we'll send it to the employee and their Supervisor/Department Head.

**If you know of someone from Telecom that has gone over and above—please take the time to nominate them!**

### Congratulations Jessica Johnson!!!!

# #TCKudos

| To: | Jessica Johnson | Dept: | telecom |
|---|---|---|---|
| From: | Shari Huff | Date: | 11/19/24 |

Thank you for...
Jessica went above and beyond to help me find a very old receipt for a county phone that had been purchased. It couldn't have been easy to find and I didn't make it any quicker because I started by giving her incorrect information to search. She was patient, kind and resourceful! We appreciate her!

## WARREN COUNTY TELECOM

TELECOM

# WE ARE HIRING!

**OPEN POSITIONS**

- INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN
- COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS ANALYST I

APPLY HERE

For more info: click here