

# NATIONAL STATE DATA CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE

Dan Veroff (WI)  
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*Secretary*  
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*Representing a Network of 1,800  
SDC/BIDC Data Centers and Affiliates Nationwide*

*We Bring Value-Added Census Data and Education to the User*

Julie Hoang (CA)  
Jane Traynham (MD)  
Barbara Ronningen (MN)  
Leonard Gaines (NY)  
Will Sawyer (VT)

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## State Data Center Steering Committee Conference Call Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009

The conference call meeting commenced at 2:00 pm Eastern Daylight Saving Time on Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup>. All Steering Committee members were in attendance. The Customer Liaison Marketing Services Office (CLMSO) was represented by Frank Ambrose, Barbara LaFleur, Nelson Colon, and Samantha Proctor.

### Agenda:

- SDC listserv message archival
- SDC elections preparation
- New tools for Clearinghouse website
- ACS data review process
- Webinar planning
- BPS, FLD, GEO follow-up
  - List of LUCA feedback questions from Linda Franz as per February meeting
  - Follow-up with network on BPS, BAS, New Construction participation
  - Field Operations
- Promotion and outreach for Census 2010
  - Address canvassing
  - Census 2010 trinkets
  - Report on National Partnership kickoff
- CLMSO Updates
  - SDC website status-update
  - SDCs without signed MOUs
  - New SDC leads that the steering committee needs to contact
  - Personnel changes at the Census Bureau
- June steering committee meeting draft agenda
- Annual meeting draft agenda
- Other Items

### *SDC listserv message archival*

Research on the current listserv identified that we can send an email to Jon Stiles to receive a digest instead of one message at a time. There is currently no way to archive at this time.

### *SDC elections preparation*

Annette Watters and Dan Veroff coordinated the elections process last year. Dan has the timeline and sample messages that were used last year. Barbara Ronningen will be happy to coordinate the process for this year. The steering committee will check to see if Missouri SDC will continue to volunteer to host the voting or if the steering committee needs to move to "Survey Monkey" or "Ballot Bin".

### *New tools for Clearinghouse website*

Due to length of this conference call agenda and scheduling, the steering committee opted to try to setup a separate conference call or try to postpone this topic until the next meeting. The steering committee would like Rachel Justis from Indiana University to walk them through the proposed new tools for the Clearinghouse website

### ***ACS data review process***

The steering committee discussed whether there is a way to pass economic development information to the Bureau for incorporation into or to use as a guide when reviewing ACS data. There currently appears to be a year behind lag in group quarters (prisons) being incorporated into the population estimates. The Bureau's presentation at the February steering committee meeting detailed how the Bureau researches gain local knowledge during their internal review of ACS. The question that still remains is if there is a way for SDCs to assist with the local knowledge base. The steering committee will continue to explore this with the Bureau at the June steering committee meeting. The Census Bureau has developed tools that identify when there are changes in the data from year to year that may need clarification or validation.

### ***Webinar planning***

The first webinar will be run by the Geography Division and be held on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. This session will discuss LUCA and the new construction program. CLMSO is also working on scheduling other webinars that include: data products (later in the month of May); 2010 Field Operations; ACS; and outreach and promotional tools. Discussion and/or planning will be put on hold for a session on DADS II or Data Ferrett, until the Bureau responds to the steering committee's letter regarding DADS II and Advanced Query. The steering committee had also requested a webinar on "count review", however instead of a webinar; this topic will be a session at the October meeting.

### ***BPS, FLD, GEO follow-up***

#### ***List of LUCA feedback questions from Linda Franz as per February meeting***

Linda will be providing a list of questions in early to mid-April for the steering committee to circulate and respond to the Bureau.

#### ***Follow-up with network on BPS, BAS, New Construction participation***

The steering committee will discuss this at a later time.

### ***Field Operations***

Field wants SDCs to contact the Regional Census Center (RCC) for information on the geographic boundaries of each local census office, partnership staff, employment issues, etc. Procedures differ by region, so it is best that each SDC contact their RCC and open up lines of communications.

There seems to be some confusion across regions as to what they can share with the SDCs regarding the integrated contact database. The states would like to know what areas have formed Complete Count Committees. Partnership-related questions should go to the RCC. If states ask the RCC for information and do not receive it, then they should contact CLMSO and let them know the issue, so CLMSO can move help to resolve the issue.

### ***Promotion and outreach for Census 2010***

#### ***Address canvassing***

To confirm employment of an address canvasser, SDCs should contact the Regional Census Center or the Local Census Office.

#### ***Census 2010 trinkets***

These items are being mailed to SDC leads this week and include an assortment of folders, fact sheet, pencils (Spanish & English), magnets, canvass bags, balloons, and mouse pads. More items will be coming later on. If states are requesting items that are Complete Count Committee related, i.e. for an event, then you should contact the ELCO and RCC for items for these meetings.

#### ***Report on National Partnership kickoff***

There were about 250 organizations that attended the kickoff meeting and the Bureau was able to obtain about 30 more partnership agreements as a result of the meeting. Jane Traynham

had previously sent out a summary of this meeting to the listserv that captured the meeting events.

***Portrait of America***

When the steering committee met in February, Annette Watters mentioned that the Census Bureau's Public Information Office (PIO) should come to Alabama to capture pictures of rural America. In early April, the Census Bureau's PIO sent out a crew of two staff members to do filming of rural areas and work with Annette. Census Bureau staff were impressed with the level of coordination and cooperation and were able to obtain pictures that truly depict the rural south. PIO expressed an interest in working with SDCs in the future to obtain pictures of America.

***CLMSO Updates***

***SDCs without signed MOUs***

There are no SDCs without signed MOUs.

***New SDC leads that the steering committee needs to contact***

SDCs that have new leads include Montana - Mary Craigle. It was also noted that Nancy Nelson's position at University of South Dakota is being eliminated, so South Dakota will be identifying a new lead agency.

***Personnel changes at the Census Bureau***

- Robert M. Groves has been nominated to be the Director of the Census Bureau. At this time, there is no information on the confirmation timeline.
- The Bureau hopes to have the Branch Chief for State and Governmental Programs position filled by the end of April, first of May.
- Mike Ratcliffe received a promotion to Assistant Division Chief for Geo-Cartographic Products and Criteria.
- Doug Hillmer will be retiring on May 1, 2009 and Grace Clemons will be his replacement as the ACS Assistant Division Chief for Data Products.

***SDC website status-update***

The new Census Bureau SDC website is being reworked - using a new template. CLMSO is targeting the end of June to release the new website. The steering committee will have from May 14<sup>th</sup> on to review the new site.

***June steering committee meeting draft agenda***

The first day (Wednesday) will be a joint day with FSCPE and CICs. So the chairs of the three steering committees should try to coordinate agenda topics for this day. One topic that SDC steering committee would like to discuss during the meeting is ACS Review. The steering committee will need to prepare a list of topics for Thursday. On Friday the steering committee will work on the annual meeting agenda.

***Annual meeting draft agenda***

The steering committee will work on the agenda for the annual meeting at the June steering committee meeting.

***Other items***

There were no other items discussed.

***Adjourn***

The steering committee conference call adjourned at about 3:15 pm.