

Meeting and Membership Information

What's the difference between APCO and CPRA?

None, really. The Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials, International (APCO) is comprised of 46 regional, state and international chapters. California Public-Safety Radio Association (CPRA) is the Southern California chapter of APCO.

Why does CPRA look different from other APCO chapters?

CPRA was independently founded in the 1930's and merged with APCO in the 1940's. With APCO's permission, CPRA retained its legacy "sun and surf" logo which sometimes appears as though we are an independent organization. But we're not. We're all card-carrying APCO members.

Is CPRA involved in APCO's conferences?

Yes. Chances are you have attended an event CPRA hosted or assisted. Leveraging our fair weather and fantastic local venues, we have hosted a few of the most successful APCO Western Region Conferences to date. We've also served as site host for several of APCO's most successful International Conferences & Expositions.

Why attend a local chapter meetings?

Our monthly meetings allow members to network with peers, participate in presentations, interact with local commercial vendors, and vet frequency coordination requests. While not every meeting can be held near to you, its location does vary so that everyone from Santa Barbara to San Diego can attend at least 1 or 2 meetings.

What can I expect at a monthly chapter meeting?

Meetings feature a mix of attendees representing our 500+ chapter members giving you access to peers with experience in a broad variety of areas. Unique to CPRA, local commercial APCO members are frequent attendees and a valuable resource when you need them. Also unique to the chapter is the monthly frequency coordination agenda, often the largest of any chapter.

What's an example of a typical meeting presentation?

Some of the most memorable topics and venues include: U.S Coast Guard Command Center capabilities and operations (San Pedro), USGS Earthquake Early Warning System (CalTech), NBC-Universal Studios emergency services (Universal City), and Large Event Emergency Communications Planning (San Marcos). Learn more about the next chapter meeting at www.cpra.org.

Why be an APCO member?

Membership offers benefits in five basic categories: Networking, Publications, Training & Career Advancement, Technical Assistance & Resources, and Advocacy.

- Conferences and Events – learn, network with peers and see latest products
- PSConnect - 24/7 forum to share ideas and connect with your peers
- Mentoring and Leadership - join one of APCO's committees to shape our industry
- Public Safety Communications - bi-monthly print and digital magazine
- PSC eNews - weekly electronic newsletter
- Membership Minute - members-only monthly email with updates and news
- APCO Institute - online and in-person courses
- Career Center - For jobseekers and employers
- Webinars - Live and recorded web seminars on current issues and events

- Awards and Recognition Programs - recognizing the industry's top achievers
- Frequency Coordination - frequency management for public safety agencies
- Licensing - full-service licensing preparation by professional staff
- License Management – monitoring for currency and adherence
- Comm Center & 9-1-1 - services, resources and technical experts
- Advocacy – working to address issues and keeping you informed

Learn more in the Membership section at www.apcointl.org.

What does annual APCO membership cost?

Individual memberships vary between \$69 and \$120 depending on type and chapter. A group membership varies from \$331 to \$2,920 depending on your agency's size. Learn more in the Membership section at www.apcointl.org.

What is an APCO membership worth?

Members receive a \$200 annual conference registration discount, 10% off spectrum licensing services, over \$1,500 in discounts and reimbursements for certain training & certification, a variety of free resources and publications, and a broad spectrum of career and social benefits. Learn more in the Membership section at www.apcointl.org.