Executive Summary:

Report for Analysis and Evaluation of Integrated Data Fusion and Robust Decision Support Systems for Emergency Management Communication in support of Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP)

The regional Monroe UASI and Monroe County in particular have made great strides in emergency management in recent years. This effort focused on leveraging that effort into a user friendly decision support system for emergency response and recovery- ‘FUSION’. Creation of such a system is not an easy task; it takes clear purpose, willingness to share sometimes sensitive information, creation of virtual and physical constructs that can be supported over time, and expertise in emergency response and management. This report is the analysis of the veracity of pursuing a fusion center. Specific recommendations follow this summary paragraph, but the overarching recommendations are to:

- Create supported information sharing through IT technical support and information security to create institutional comfort with cross focus informational use. To do this, engage both county IT support and ESi (Web EOC vendor) to address information security concerns; then create a managerial expectation that information be supplied and shared as needed to the fusion center.

- Continue to map and collate informational sources onto compatible platforms to ease fusion. This is especially critical for the foundational 911 system.

- Support increased cooperation between all facets of emergency response and management which includes but is not limited to the agency representation deployed to an activated EOC. It is our observation that several agencies possess informational expertise that could be leveraged in a fusion center. This effort should begin with a steering committee with functional and decisional representation from first responders, support agencies and decision-makers. Such an effort needs a high level of buy in and management to be successful.

- Continue to data assess and mine informational sources for guidance. Existing systems have rich data that can guide future efforts (and DECREASE reliance on experience). Systems like the 911 data and a reconfigured flood gage system can provide insight and capability to emergency management.