

I have been involved with a person who was supposedly not at work during a drill. This individual was placed as a net controller for an exercise. Real world communications were going on and they broke in to announce the drill without regard to "listening first". In addition the individual did not belong to any ARES group therefore they had no training whatsoever in EMCOM.

I think that this ruling is wrong on many fronts. The ARES groups have a handle on how to run things in emergencies. Giving this allowance to the hospitals, etc will only serve to disinterest the many volunteers that now are willing to assist in an emergency. Many of our ARES members take time off from their regular jobs, some at no pay to assist during exercises. Allowing this rule will only disenfranchise many.