





Satellite Phone Info Sheet for Public Safety

GlobalStar operates a satellite-based phone and data service. Service can be add for about \$50/month (get 60 minutes) at government discount. See www.globalstar.com for info. Here are the GlobalStar options most likely to interest public safety.

<p>GlobalStar GSP-1600 Mobile Phone</p>		<p>About \$500-\$700. Phone made by Qualcomm. 10,000+ shipped into New Orleans area. BPD and Newton PD have some.</p>	<p>The size of a fat cell phone. Must be used outside (not in a building or car).</p>
<p>GlobalStar FAU 200 Fixed Phone (for permanent mount inside a Dispatch Center or EOC)</p>		<p>About \$650</p>	<p>Mount on a roof and wire to phones in the building below. Another model (GSP 2900) adds data and more features but costs \$2,500.</p>
<p>GlobalStar Car Kit</p>		<p>About \$800. This would make sense for a command or tactical vehicle or mobile command bus.</p>	<p>The car kit allows the unit to operate in a car (has a cable to a roof-mounted antenna)</p>
<p>GlobalStar TCK-1410 Transportable Car Kit</p>		<p>\$1,200 This is probably the best Command Post/EOC kit as it allows flexible setup inside. A Pelican version is much more expensive</p>	<p>Special setups are available than can be set up in a command post, room, or vehicle and still work through the outside antenna</p>

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1. The other major satellite system used by handheld sets inside the US. is Iridium; do not know its relative cost-benefits. The voice quality of GlobalStar is said to be superior to Iridium and the data speed is higher; but Iridium has better coverage in extremely isolated areas of the world. All handheld sat phones have some issues when you are in a tall-building, urban canyon-type setting, but they appear to work on the “average” Cambridge, Newton, or Boston streetcorner.

2. Consider a solar charger for any handsets; see www.outfittersatellite.com for the small solar charger units that will allow you to recharge batteries when there is no access to generator or line power. See www.explorersweb.com; they outfit the big expeditions.