

# Lt. Gov. Dan Mongiardo's Communications Office

## Lieutenant Governor Daniel Mongiardo participates in Weather Radio Announcement and Giveaway

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Today, Lieutenant Governor Daniel Mongiardo announced that a \$40,000 Kentucky Office of Homeland Security (KOHS) grant awarded to the Franklin County Fiscal Court and the City of Frankfort in May has been used to purchase a transmitter and antenna that will enable weather alert radios to pick up a signal in Franklin County. Additionally, a contribution of \$5,000 from the City of Frankfort and \$5,000 from the Franklin County Fiscal Court has facilitated the purchase of 400 weather alert radios to be used in conjunction with the new transmitter system.

This morning at Ashwood Place, a local retirement community, Lieutenant Governor Mongiardo was joined by Frankfort Mayor Bill May, Franklin County Judge Executive Ted Collins and Louisville-based National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Chief Meteorologist John Gordon to make this announcement and giveaway a weather radio to the Ashwood Place community.

"I am proud to have the opportunity to help provide the Franklin County community with such a valuable, important resource," said Lieutenant Governor Daniel Mongiardo. "This new system will enable those who previously would not have had advance notice of weather threats to now have a life-saving warning. At a time of year when the weather begins to turn colder and the risk of heavy winds, snow and ice are always on the horizon, weather alerts radios become more important than ever."

Prior to the purchase of the new transmitter and antenna, weather radios were useless in Franklin County due to the lack of equipment necessary to receive a signal from the National Weather Service. Emergency alert weather radios provide immediate information about life threatening events, allowing for extra time to prepare and evacuate if necessary. They are especially beneficial to individuals with vision or hearing impairments due to their capabilities for both audible and visual signals.

"We are committed to making sure that the weather alert radios get to those who are most in need, especially our high-risk schools, sick and elderly here in Frankfort and Franklin County," said Deron Rambo, Coordinator for the Weather Radio Giveaway. "We will be working with community agencies including the Franklin County Department of Public Health in order to ensure those who might otherwise be unable to afford a weather radio will now have much-needed severe weather access and information. The rest will be available on a first come, first serve basis."