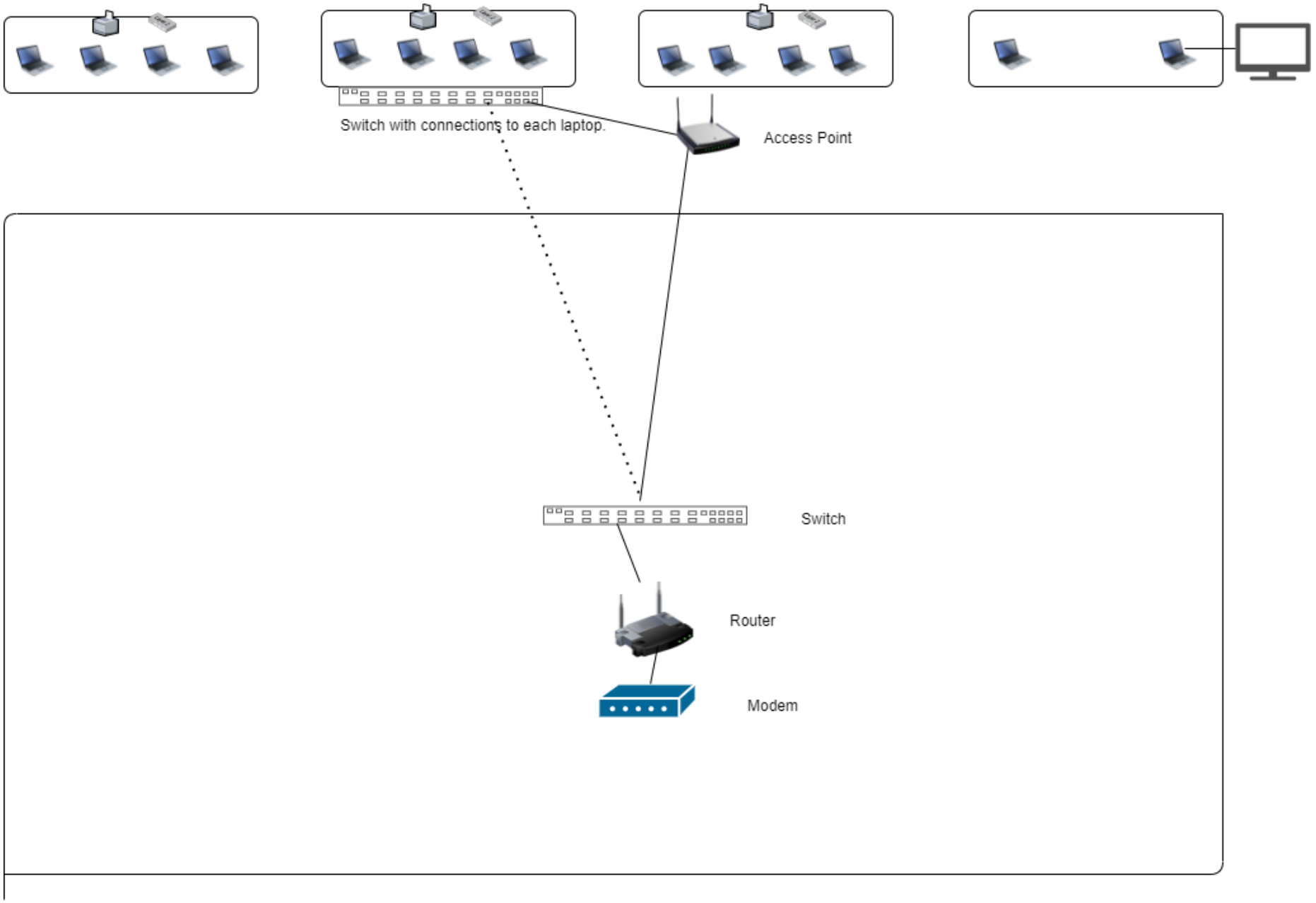

Switch with connections to each laptop.
Access Point
Switch
Router
Modem

Montgomery Stake Command Center

- This is a similar to our setup for the Hurricane Ida command center. See above.
- We had one laptop connected to a TV for the chainsaw training video.
- We started out with connecting one of the switches in the building to our 16 port Gig Switch located by one of the tables. See below
- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07GR9S6FN/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o03_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- We connected each Laptop to the switch using Cat 6 pre-made cables. This gives the fastest connection. You can use a 10/100 Mbps switch but if your internet connection in the building is faster than 100 Mbps, then you will throttle it down.
- The first weekend, we had the printers connected via ethernet as well and had lots of printing issues. The second weekend, we went with print hubs using USB cables. See below.
- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0036Z322Y/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o05_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00BCWALHM/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o05_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- It worked flawlessly. We had newer monochrome laser printers so that we did not have to worry about print driver issues. We prefer the Brother printers. You may have some available in your buildings (usually Xerox) to borrow for the weekend to cut down on that cost.
- The print hubs have no power connections. The center connection goes to your printer and then for add each laptop in order, 1-4 using the USB cables. You have to press the corresponding number on the hub when ready to print unless you load some software on each laptop for automatic switching which we did not do. When first connecting your laptop, go ahead and press the corresponding number on the hub to setup your drivers for the hub and the printer and then send a test page. They work great!
- We bought a few laptops that we will use for Stake Broadcasts and Stake FH events in the future to fill in for those who did not have their own laptops. See below (We caught a Labor Day special with $100 off). 3 USB ports, 1 HDMI, 1 Ethernet port. If you do not get them with Ethernet ports, you may have to buy some USB to Ethernet NIC adapters. Also, if your laptop only has 2 USB ports, that maybe taken up by the USB printer cable and a mouse so you may need to get the NIC adapter with USB ports on them. See below. Also, if your laptop comes with the new smaller USB ports called USB C, then you may look at the USB C to Ethernet adapters. See below.
- https://www.bestbuy.com/site/dell-inspiron-15-6-fhd-touch-laptop-intel-core-i5-1035g1-12gb-ram-256-gb-ssd-black/6447115.p?skuId=6447115
- https://www.amazon.com/Ethernet-Adapter-ABLEWE-Gigabit-Chromebook/dp/B085DJLDBC
- https://www.amazon.com/Ethernet-Adapter-ABLEWE-Aluminum-Chromebook/dp/B07YWTTP9L
- The Slidell command center had an access point we could use, but you may want to have one available. See below for one that will work. If you connect directly to the modem, you may need to configure your access point for DHCP to dish out IP addresses to your laptops.
- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01LFSDZCU/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1

- For a cleaner install with a lot less wires, you may want to use just your access point for your laptop internet connections. Wi-Fi is not as fast but should be enough for running crisis cleanup and your shared Google docs. A Chromebook will technically work for this as well for your laptops but the processing power compared to a regular laptop may not be as good for other uses. You could even connect from the building internet to your Access Point and connect over to your switch so you have Wi-Fi or hardwire options.
- Your command center building may have good wi-fi already but we found that having an access point outside by the tables gave us better coverage. A few other options would be to use a phone as a hot spot, a MiFi device or something a CradlePoint that has multiple sim cards in them for multiple cell tower connections. We even heard of another option when there is no internet in the buildings and cell service is not available where ATT came in with a mobile hotspot to keep our command center going.
- We hope this provides some help for your command center and may God Bless you for your service!