



First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOC) – January 2, 2018

FirstNet News

- Last week, FirstNet marked the end of the statutorily mandated governors' decision period, with all 50 states, two territories, and the District of Columbia opting in <<https://firstnet.gov/news/first-responder-network-goes-nationwide>>! The governors of the three Pacific territories have until March 12 to make their decisions. Stay tuned at www.firstnet.gov.
- Since the last update, FirstNet posted two new blogs: Meet FirstNet, the Future of Public Safety Broadband Communications at CES 2018 <<https://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/meet-firstnet-future-public-safety-broadband-communications-ces-2018>> and New Year, New Network, New FirstNet <<https://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/new-year-new-network-new-firstnet>>.
- This week, FirstNet will participate in a coordination meeting with the Idaho Public Safety Communications Commission in Boise; a meeting with the Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service's Communications Section in Gaithersburg, Maryland; and a meeting with the Vermont SPOC Team in Waterbury.
- SAFECOM and the DHS Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) request your support. The SAFECOM Nationwide Survey (SNS) seeks to obtain actionable and critical data that drives our nation's emergency communications policies, programs, and funding. SAFECOM seeks responses from emergency response provider organizations at all levels of government, as well as Tribal Nations. Please see the attached document for more information and visit the SAFECOM Nationwide Survey Site. <<https://www.dhs.gov/safecom/sns>>. Your input is critical.

Media Watch

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RCR Wireless News 12/29: FirstNet gets unanimous nationwide opt-in

<https://www.rcrwireless.com/20171229/network-infrastructure/firstnet-gets-unanimous-nationwide-opt-in-tag6>

The First Responders Network Authority and carrier partner AT&T have passed another hurdle in achieving a nationwide public safety broadband network: the deadline for opt-in/opt-out decisions ended with all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and two U.S. territories deciding to allow AT&T to build out FirstNet coverage — including one state that made a last-minute reversal of an opt-out. This makes the opt-in unanimous nationwide, with three other territories granted additional time to make decisions because their proposed network plans were released later than the others.

State Scoop 12/28: 7 things that happened in government tech this year

<http://statescoop.com/7-things-that-happened-in-gov-tech-this-year>

At the start of 2017, FirstNet, the federal agency assigned to build the U.S.'s first nationwide communications network for public safety workers, hadn't yet named a vendor. But after naming AT&T as project lead in March, things moved quickly.

MissionCritical Communications 12/28: Top U.S. Stories of 2017

<https://www.rrmediagroup.com/News/NewsDetails/NewsID/16374>

The award of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) contract to AT&T in March also garnered plenty of views. That award launched a busy year for AT&T and FirstNet that included the release of state plans, the final deadline for states to opt out, the signing of the first subscribers, more details on priority and pre-emption, and a lawsuit over whether FirstNet is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Web and Social Media

FirstNet's social media presence grew at faster than its normal rate since the last update. Twitter gained 177 new followers, now at 8,717. Facebook has 2,386 followers. LinkedIn now has 3,527 followers. YouTube has 639 subscribers.

Do you have something you want to feature in the weekly update, such as a conference date, personnel announcement, or news article showcasing the work of your organization? Please send it to Outreach@firstnet.gov <Outreach@firstnet.gov> for possible inclusion in an upcoming update.