



## PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCACY UPDATE

The **Public Safety Advocacy Update** comes to your inbox with a quick look at events and information you need to stay up to date with the First Responder Network Authority.



### Featured advocacy event

#### FirstNet: One year and counting endless benefits for Maryland first responders

In the year since Maryland chose to “opt in” to FirstNet, first responders from across the state have turned to the nationwide wireless network countless times during day-to-day and emergency response situations. At a press event commemorating the anniversary of Maryland Governor **Larry**



**Hogan's** opt-in decision, Lt. Governor **Boyd Rutherford** recognized the network's impact on bolstering emergency communications by putting collaborative technologies into the hands of first responders.

The event put a spotlight on FirstNet's role last spring during strong thunderstorms in Washington County. With high winds and over 10 inches of rain causing flash flooding, crews relied on the FirstNet network to communicate with fellow responders on the scene and when clearing debris from major waterways, repairing bridge damage, and restoring power outages across the county.

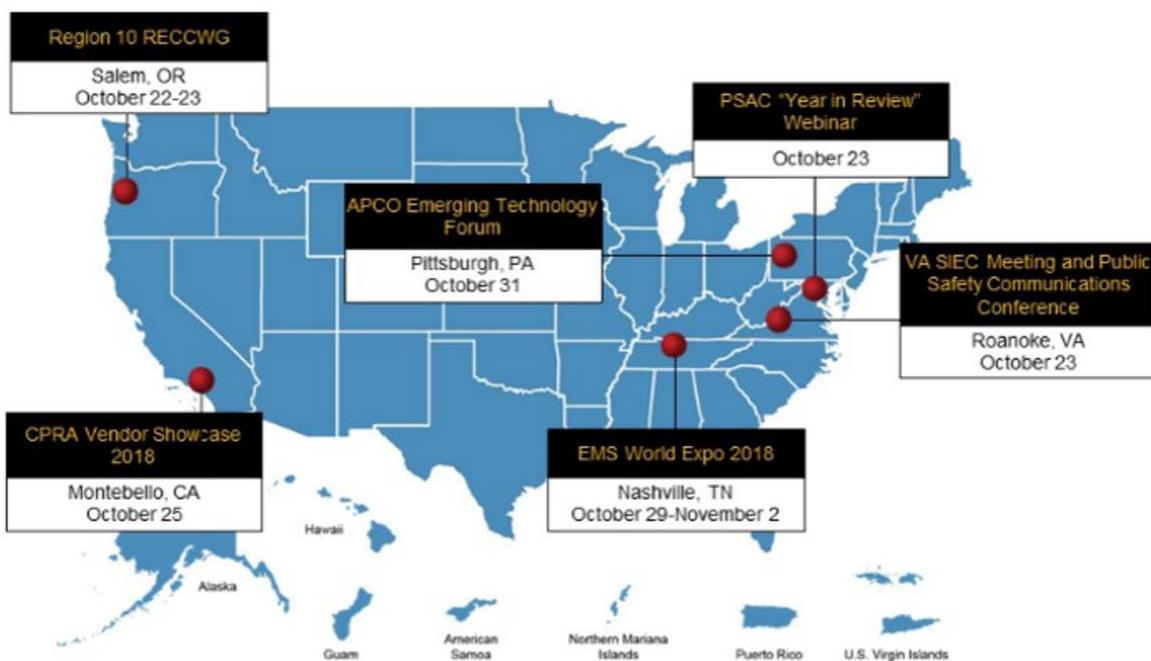
"We recently experienced significant flooding. Water rescues, road closures, and more needed to be quickly coordinated to keep our responders and our residents safe," said Washington County Sheriff **Doug Mullendore**, whose agency was one of the first in the nation to join FirstNet. "When

disaster hit, we relied on FirstNet to keep us connected. We even called in a Satellite Cell on Light Truck (SatCOLT), boosting our ability to communicate and coordinate our emergency response beyond the low bandwidth Wi-Fi some of our personnel were using."

As the number of FirstNet subscribers across the country continues to grow, more first responders are experiencing the same reliable communications Washington County did during flooding response. Recently, First Responder Network Authority partner AT&T announced that public safety agencies subscribed to FirstNet are guaranteed access to AT&T's fleet of [72 dedicated deployable network assets](#) during large events or for disaster response. Washington County, MD, is one example of the over 150,000 FirstNet connections in place that ensure responders are able to communicate to do their jobs and save lives.



## Select upcoming Public Safety Advocacy engagements



## FirstNet in Action

### FirstNet delivers for agencies responding to Hurricane Michael

Since the storm made landfall, FirstNet has been keeping national, state, and local public safety agencies connected to the information they need to make rescues, communicate and coordinate their storm response, and aid in recovery. [Read more.](#)



### FirstNet video

The Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team experienced FirstNet's data sharing benefits when the network effortlessly transferred data from a field aid station to a field hospital to assist in a critical incident.

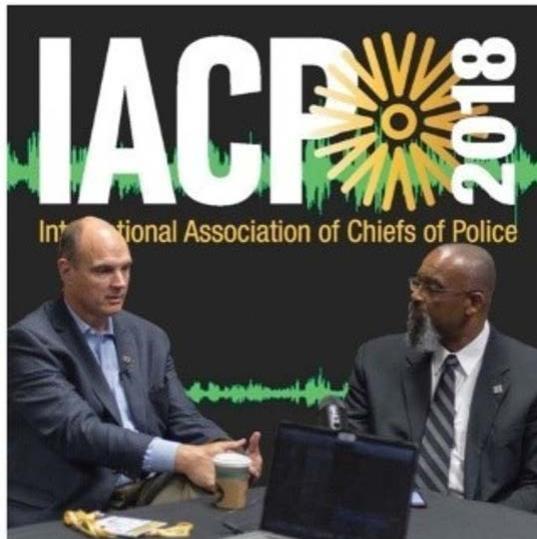
"You have sensitive information that can now be transferred when previously,

we couldn't do that over traditional communications," said **Brook Lawrence**, Executive Officer of Rhode Island's Medical Assistance Team. "This is much better for the patient in the end." [Watch the video.](#)



### **Public Safety First Podcast Episode 9: FirstNet, Data and Interoperable Comms for Law Enforcement with Sheriff Richard Stanek**

In the latest episode of *Public Safety First*, the First Responder Network Authority's Senior Law Enforcement Advisor, **Harry Markley**, and the FirstNet Board's Vice Chair, Sheriff **Richard Stanek** of Hennepin County, MN, met at the 2018 IACP Annual Conference and Exposition to talk about how FirstNet benefits law enforcement and the evolution of public safety technology. [Listen to the full podcast.](#)



### FirstNet in the news

NATIONAL COVERAGE

[NetMotion Software Delivers Mobile Security and Connectivity for FirstNet](#) (AP News, Oct. 18)

We're pleased that NetMotion is an active member of the FirstNet ecosystem," said Scott Agnew, assistant vice president, AT&T, FirstNet Program. "NetMotion's software provides a critical link to enhance public safety's access to applications they need to achieve their missions.

[swyMed Joins AT&T's FirstNet Dealer Program](#) (SwyMed, Oct. 18)

In support of AT&T's efforts to deliver FirstNet services to first responders under its contract with the First Responder Network Authority, AT&T has engaged a group of dealers and solution providers with deep knowledge of public safety. This FirstNet Dealer Program will help get FirstNet's game-changing technology into the hands of first responders throughout the U.S.

[Axon becomes first vendor in AT&T's FirstNet-embedded program with body-worn camera](#) (*Urgent Comms*, Oct. 17)

As a member of the FirstNet-embedded program, Axon is able to sell FirstNet connectivity to public-safety agencies as part of its overall product offering, so there is no need for agencies to subscribe separately to FirstNet.

[As Tech Changes Law Enforcement, Its Workforce Must Adapt](#) (*Government Technology*, Oct. 16)

**Bill Schrier**, senior adviser to FirstNet, and former deputy director of the Center for Digital Government, said there's a "dichotomy" around tech in law enforcement between older and younger staff members and their use and embrace of it. He recommended agencies adopt a "mobile-first" approach to tech because of the profession's field-based work, but also leaned heavily on soft skills like communication, approachability and engagement.

[Network recovery operations ongoing in aftermath of Hurricane Michael](#) (*RCR Wireless*, Oct. 15)

Our teams continue to work to repair and restore service, and deploy additional recovery equipment and portable cell sites (COLTs) to support customers and first responders. We are moving quickly to keep our customers, FirstNet subscribers and public safety agencies connected as they work to keep our communities safe."

[FirstNet Is Vital to Public Safety](#) (Opinion by **Edward Davis**, *Morning Consult*, Oct. 15)

Recent news that Santa Clara County firefighters had their internet service speeds slowed while they were battling the worst wildfire in California's history is troubling. In times of emergency, every second counts and every second lost can cost lives. Dedicated — and prioritized — broadband access is critical for our nation's firefighters, police, and first responders. That is precisely why FirstNet is such an important part of advancing public safety.

[AT&T Touts Network Recovery Effort](#) (*LightReading*, Oct. 11)

Our first priority is keeping our customers and first responders connected; especially during storms and natural disasters. In anticipation of Hurricane Michael, our teams were hard at work preparing and protecting our network.

[Cable Operators Prepared for Hurricane Michael's Wrath](#) (*MultiChannel*, Oct. 10)

AT&T said its local and regional Network support teams, its Network Disaster Recovery (NDR) team, and the AT&T FirstNet team, have staged network assets along the Gulf Coast for quick deployment if needed.

## REGIONAL COVERAGE

[Hundreds deployed to help re-establish cellular service](#) (*My Panhandle*, Oct. 14)

AT&T has deployed network assets at the guidance of public safety. FirstNet SatCOLTs have boosted connectivity for FirstNet subscribers in hard-hit areas. These deployments are supporting national guardsmen, airmen, state patrol, trauma care, police, fire and rescue teams who have traveled from as far as Oregon.

[FirstNet Indiana: One Year In](#) (AT&T Indiana press release, Oct. 11)

One year has passed since Governor Holcomb opted in to FirstNet," said **David Vice**, Executive Director – Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC). "In those 365 days, FirstNet has moved from concept to reality. Much work is left to be done, but I've been amazed at how fast FirstNet is being built and how many Indiana first responders are adopting the next-generation technology to protect and serve their communities.



## Be social with FirstNet



**Michael Varney**

@chiefvarney

Follow

Great event today with our Maryland Partners! ✓



**Boyd Rutherford** ✓ @BoydKRutherford

We celebrated the 1-year anniversary of the implementation of FirstNet- a dedicated first responders network platform. We are committed to working w/ our first responders at all levels to ensure we stay connected, innovate our public safety operations &...

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**FirstNet Authority** ✓

@FirstNetGov

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Great to join @washcomdsheff Mullendore, MD Lt. Gov. @BoydKRutherford and other state and local leaders as #Maryland marks one year of @FirstNet. We're proud to support the state's #firstresponders with a dedicated comms platform —> ✓ [prnewswire.com/news-releases/](https://prnewswire.com/news-releases/) ... #WeServeYou #FirstNet ✓





**FirstNet Authority** @FirstNetGov

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.@FirstNet dedicated deployable assets are supporting #firstresponders during recovery efforts to #HurricaneMichael.

These mobile cell sites provide responders with similar capabilities & connectivity as a cell tower. Learn about FirstNet's fleet:

[about.att.com/story/2018/fir...](https://about.att.com/story/2018/fir...)



**FirstNet, Built with AT&T** @FirstNet

Following

Dedicated to the dedicated: Proud to be supporting responders in Panama City, FL with 200 FirstNet Ready devices during hurricane Michael recovery efforts.



FirstNet Authority liked



**Governor Rauner** @GovRauner · Oct 12

#DigitalIllinois. Authorized build-out of First Responder Network (**FirstNet**) to give fire, police, **EMS**, and other public safety personnel secure wireless broadband connections when they need them most.

[pic.twitter.com/nJgF8iw1rY](https://pic.twitter.com/nJgF8iw1rY)



FirstNet

Yesterday at 10:23 AM · 🌐



"When it comes to natural disasters like #HurricaneMichael, we're all in this together. And when everything else was down, FirstNet was working. It's helping keep our officers across the state stay safe and connected during their lifesaving missions," said Steve Casey, Executive Director of the Florida Sheriffs Association



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✔ **Public Safety Spotlight: FirstNet Delivers for Agencies Responding to Hurricane Michael**

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[FirstNet.gov](https://www.firstnet.gov)

