



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 Activity:

FirstNet participates in the Utah Fire Chief Association's Annual Meeting

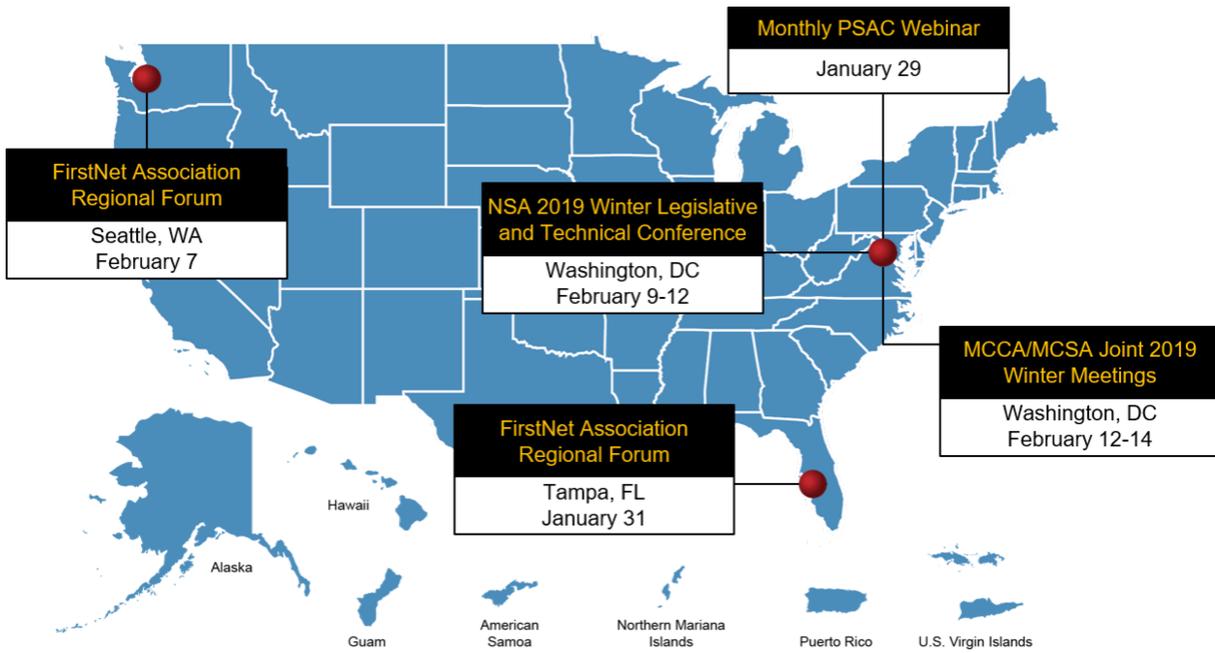
Last week, the First Responder Network Authority engaged with nearly 70 members of the Utah Fire Chiefs Association (UFCA), led by President **Mark Becraft**, at the UFCA's annual meeting in St. George, Utah. The UFCA focuses on fire service issues such as fire prevention, suppression, and rescue, as well as legislative challenges impacting fire services.

The First Responder Network Authority provided insights into the importance of its partnership with AT&T, highlighting FirstNet network differentiators, the importance of meeting public safety's needs, and our commitment to public safety. The First Responder Network Authority's private sector network partner, AT&T, also shared their excitement and anticipation for the buildout as it continues to improve coverage and capacity in Utah and across the nation.

This was a valued opportunity for the First Responder Network Authority and AT&T to continue to understand the needs of public safety operations in Utah.



Select Upcoming Public Safety Advocacy Engagements



**FirstNet in Action:
Encouraging Innovation for First Responders at CES 2019**



Encouraging Innovation for First Responders at CES 2019

From Jan. 7-11, the First Responder Network Authority joined several innovative companies at the CES 2019 event. Speaking at the event, the First Responder Network Authority highlighted the network’s progress and encouraged innovators to bring the latest technology to first responders. Learn more about our CES presence in this [news release](#).

FirstNet Helps Responders Hear over the Music at *Life is Beautiful* Festival

Las Vegas’s three-day music festival known as “Life is Beautiful” brings about 18,000 visitors from all across the nation. With a crowd this large, it can be hard for first responders to communicate, but



FirstNet helped them hear through the noise and connect to do their lifesaving work.

[Learn how](#) the City of Las Vegas Fire and Rescue used FirstNet to enhance their emergency communication during the festival.



Data sharing, cost savings motivate local EMS to adopt FirstNet

Plain Township Fire Department in Franklin County, OH, switched to FirstNet last year. Now the department uses the network as their data backbone.

[Read this blog post](#) by First Responder Network Authority Senior EMS Advisor **Brent Williams** to learn more about how

FirstNet is helping the Plain Township Fire Department and other first responders share and receive data.



Public Safety First Podcast 16: The future of fire service technology with Dan Munsey

In the latest episode of *Public Safety First*, San Bernardino County, CA, Assistant Fire Chief **Dan Munsey** talks with First Responder Network Authority Public Safety Senior Advisor Michael Varney on

emerging technologies such as drones and wearables and how they will transform fire service operations in the future. [Listen to the podcast.](#)



FirstNet in the news

NATIONAL COVERAGE

[FirstNet, Cradlepoint help Indiana agencies address connectivity issues during response efforts](#)

(Urgent Communications, Jan. 22)

Indiana public-safety agencies are using FirstNet and Cradlepoint mobile routers—both in-vehicle and pelican-case solutions—to quickly establish broadband connectivity in almost any location without the need for satellite backhaul, according to a state official.

[Public Safety officials tout benefits of datacasting for video distribution](#)

(MissionCritical Communications, Jan. 18)

Two public-safety officials discussed how effective datacasting has been to their video and data distribution efforts, complementing other broadband data services. Datacasting is technology that sends IP data over broadcast TV spectrum, and public-safety agencies are working with the America's Public Television Stations (APTS) to access the service. Public-safety agencies around the country have used datacasting during fires, floods and earthquakes, as well as for search and rescue and school safety initiatives.

[TIA, IoT Community gear up for smarter buildings in IoT, 5G era](#)

(FierceWireless, Jan. 18)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) recently announced an agreement with the Internet of Things Community to work on accelerating the digital transformation of the IoT and further the development of smart buildings—and they have a lot of good reasons to collaborate. TIA considers networking and connectivity as the fourth utility in a building, along with electricity, water and the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system. Another important in-building factor to consider is FirstNet, the LTE network dedicated to first responders.

[Smart Cities panel at CES 2019: AT&T's Mike Zeto on 5G, IoT, resiliency](#)

(TechRepublic, Jan. 17)

At CES 2019, AT&T's Mike Zeto spoke with TechRepublic's **Jason Hiner** and **Teena Maddox** about 5G and the future of smart cities at CES 2019. Zeto said, "So I've got a great job. And at AT&T, I'm the general manager of our Smart Cities business. I actually founded the business for the company. It was a startup inside of the Internet of Things practice that we have. And I've got responsibility for not only Smart Cities, but drones. IoT devices for FirstNet, which is our nationwide public safety broadband network."

[Iowa County preps for emergency radio system overhaul](#)

(Government Technology, Jan. 15)

The current Story County emergency radio communication system has been described as having the efficiency of "two cans on a string," by Story County Supervisor **Rick Sanders** and the durability of "masking tape and baling wire," by Story County Sheriff **Paul Fitzgerald**. Therefore, the Story County

Board of Supervisors is looking to provide an upgrade to their emergency radio system. The upgrade seeks to improve the system's LMR (Land Mobile Radio), service reception, and provide heightened emergency communications.

[FirstNet participates at Consumer Electronics Show 2019](#)

(Homeland Preparedness News, Jan. 15)

Representatives of the First Responder Network Authority spoke at last week's Consumer Electronics Show (CES) and CES Government 2019 in Los Vegas about technology innovations related to first responders. FirstNet members took part in panel discussions or were keynote speakers on ensuring resilient communications networks; emergency preparedness; smart cities, public safety & disaster preparedness/recovery; shaping safer cities in the future with smart technology; and mobile devices, apps, and building community resiliency with FirstNet technology.

[AT&T reports increased LTE coverage area for FirstNet subscribers](#)

(GovCon Wire, Jan. 14)

AT&T has expanded the coverage area of its LTE services for first responders by more than 50K square miles in a move to bolster the FirstNet public safety communications network, ExecutiveBiz reported Thursday. The company said Wednesday the additional LTE coverage developed over the past year increased FirstNet's reach by 1M new users, with more than 425K total connections across 5.2K public safety agencies, as part of the network build-out effort.

REGIONAL COVERAGE

[County unanimously approves cell tower near Sedona Pines](#)

(The Verde Independent, AZ, Jan. 19)

A new cell tower will soon appear near Sedona Pines despite opposition from neighbors. Wednesday, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors approved plans to build an 80-foot-tall co-locatable cell phone tower in the parking lot of the Sedona Pines Resort office and Bella Vita Restaurant along State Rout 89A. The project is meant to help communication between first responders, according to staff. Michael Campbell spoke at the meeting on behalf of the applicant said the project was part of the nationwide program, FirstNet.

[RloT hosts event to accelerate gigabit cities movement in NC](#)

(WRAL Techwire, NC, Jan. 18)

Next week, RloT is hosting an afternoon event capturing the gigabit movement taking shape across North Carolina communities. A panel covering smart cities and public safety will feature NC FirstNet SPOC and FCC Disaster Working Group Chairman **Red Grasso**, City of Fayetteville Emergency Management Office Assistant Chief **Moisbiell Alvarez** and 3M Protective Safety Division's **Kimberly Henry**.



Be social with FirstNet



Edward Parkinson @EdPFIRSTNet · Jan 22

A fascinating day spent in Paradise, CA with the @western_fire touring the devastation of the #CampFire. My thanks to Chiefs Hawks and the @CALFIRE_ButteCo team for hosting. We must learn from this tragedy to protect others in the future. @CalFireNews @FirstNetGov #fire #safety



Public Safety Dispatchers @EmergencyDisp · 7h

If you haven't heard of FirstNet yet, take a look at their features and plans. You as a first responder (dispatchers included) can sign up for their cellular & data plans! #firstnet #att



FirstNet Authority @FirstNetGov

What a year for #publicsafety! From the launch of preemption to the dedicated physical core, 2018 saw major advances made for emergency comms and #FirstNet. Check them out in our latest video.



Texas City ISD @TexasCityISD · Jan 22

TCISD is glad to partner with @FirstNet to help us with our communication needs during emergency situations.



FirstNet, Built with AT&T @FirstNet

Texas City Independent School District adopted FirstNet to help provide a more secure environment for its students. Watch what school officials have to say about FirstNet's role in their students' safety: my.firstnet.com/a856a570

Anritsu Company @Anritsu · 17h

Since October, **#FirstNet** has gained 175,000 subscribers from 1,650 public safety agencies, causing a need to expand the **#publicsafety** communications platform's **#LTE** coverage area by more than 50,000 square miles nationwide. Read more at [@FierceWireless](#).



UPDATE: FirstNet subscriber base jumps 70% in le...
 FirstNet, a nationwide broadband network dedicated to public safety, has increased its subscriber base by 70% since late October 2018.
fiercewireless.com

NICE **NICE Public Safety** @NICE_PublicSafe · 18h

#NG911 and **#FirstNet** are ushering in a new era in data-rich multimedia communications. The convergence of these networks in the **#PSAP** will dramatically enhance public safety communications. But it will also introduce new complexities. Is your PSAP ready? bit.ly/2VGbfQr



Bringing Operational Excellence to Your PSAP (Part 1)

FirstNet Authority @FirstNetGov · Jan 19

"They [public safety] will tell you, as they have told us, the ability to communicate with each other and the public is at the heart of enabling community resiliency."
 -Acting CEO Ed Parkinson. Read his full remarks: firstnet.gov/news/firstnet-...
[@EdPFirstNet](#)





FirstNet Authority @FirstNetGov · Jan 15

#CES2019 featured cutting-edge tech that may help #publicsafety with everything from navigating treacherous terrain to monitoring the health of first responders in the field. Via @EMS1: [ems1.com/technology/art...](https://www.ems1.com/technology/art...) #TechTuesday



10 CES 2019 gadgets for forward-thinking first resp...

First responders could benefit from several gadgets debuted at CES 2019

[ems1.com](https://www.ems1.com)



FirstNet Authority @FirstNetGov · Jan 14

First responders on @FirstNet got a big boost in wireless connectivity in 2018! Public safety's dedicated network is connecting rural, remote responders, increasing capacity for urban responders, and keeping them all connected with innovative solutions --> [firstnet.gov/news/more-5000...](https://www.firstnet.gov/news/more-5000...)



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

