



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:

First Responder Network Authority Board Meets on FirstNet's Future

At last week's quarterly Board meeting in Jackson, MS, the First Responder Network Authority Board announced several new initiatives to advance the FirstNet experience for first responders.

First Responder Network Authority Board Chair **Edward**

Horowitz reiterated the agency's commitment to

public safety and driving innovation in the public safety marketplace. As the First Responder Network Authority begins implementing strategic priorities in 2018, Horowitz emphasized that public safety input will remain paramount to enhancing the network.

The new initiatives include:

Investment principles. As the First Responder Network Authority looks to begin using its investment funds, the Board unanimously approved [investment principles](#) to capture the diverse needs and priorities of public safety stakeholders. The principles provide funding guidance to



innovate and improve the network and ensure that all investments must:

- Be derived from and benefit public safety
- Maintain and advance the foundation of the network
- Be fiscally responsible and reflect strong financial management
- Consider a balanced approach and provide value to public safety.

First Responder Network Authority Roadmap. Acting CEO Edward Parkinson and executive team members outlined the First Responder Network Authority's plans to develop a Roadmap to guide FirstNet's future development. The Roadmap targets stakeholder engagements and uses the four board-approved principles to inform investments to reflect public safety's operational needs and technology trends.

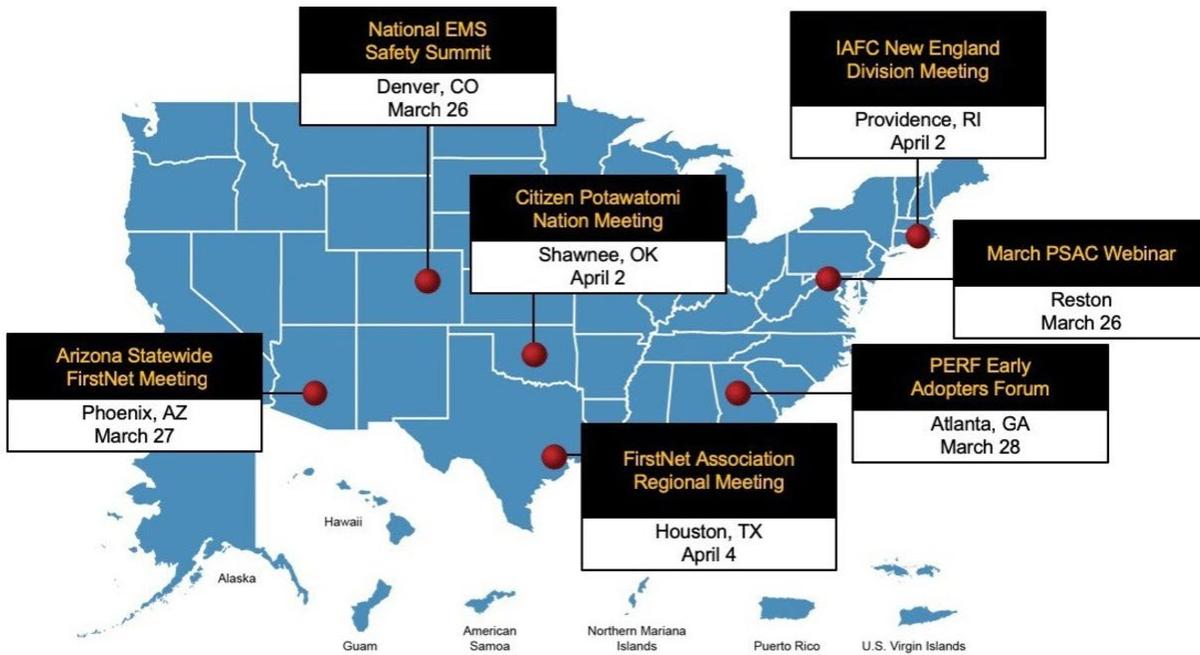
University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) MOU. Just before the Board meeting, the First Responder Network Authority and the UMMC [signed an MOU](#) to share information on innovation for emergency medical care and response, and mobile broadband for rural first responders in Mississippi and nationwide. Secretary of Commerce **Wilbur Ross** and Mississippi Governor **Phil Bryant** participated in the announcement and recognized the First Responder Network Authority and UMMC for their collaboration to drive technology innovation for first responders.

The FirstNet Innovation and Test Lab future Experience Program plans to use this information to help improve medical response and patient outcomes for rural first responders. The MOU is also the first in the First Responder Network Authority's University Program – an initiative to partner with universities and to educate public safety about cutting-edge technology use.

The First Responder Network Authority would like to thank the State of Mississippi for hosting its quarterly Board meeting. Additional information about the Board meeting and the new initiatives underway can be found on the First Responder Network Authority's website at www.firstnet.gov.



Select Upcoming Public Safety Advocacy Engagements



Join the National Information Sharing Consortium’s Webinar on FirstNet Apps and Devices

On April 17, 1-2 p.m. ET, the National Information Sharing Consortium is hosting a webinar about FirstNet devices and applications, including work within the developer community related to FirstNet. Speakers include **Sean McSpaden**, Executive Director of the National Information Sharing Consortium; **Dr. Jennifer Harder**, Senior Director of Products at the First Responder Network Authority; and **Travis Hull**, Senior Public Safety Products Advisor for the First Responder Network Authority. Tune in to learn everything you need to know about the FirstNet App Catalog and FirstNet Ready devices. Register [HERE](#).



FirstNet in Action

Communications Boosted at Birkebeiner Race with FirstNet Deployable

Every February, 30,000 skiers and spectators descend on northwestern Wisconsin to take part in the largest cross-country race in North America, the American Birkebeiner. The more than 30-mile race from Cable to



Hayward, known as the “Birkie,” tests the endurance of skiers. It also creates a huge emergency communications challenge for first responders.

[Learn more](#) about how the Wisconsin Office of Emergency Communications used a FirstNet SatCoLT to provide seamless coverage and help keep participants and spectators safe.



Citizen Potawatomi Nation: “When nothing else works, [FirstNet] will”

In August 2018, the Citizen Potawatomi Tribe hosted its annual FireLake Fireflight Balloon Festival, a two-day event that attracts crowds as large as 34,000 people to Shawnee, OK, every year.

As with any gathering in a place not accustomed to large crowds, commercial networks can become overloaded and congested, delaying or sometimes impeding communications among public safety officials working the event. [Learn more](#) about how the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Tribal Director of Emergency Management used FirstNet Sonim devices and AT&T deployables to respond to medical emergencies.



FirstNet in the news

[Research on emergency medical internet set for Mississippi](#) (*Associated Press*, March 21)

The University of Mississippi Medical Center will conduct research with a federal group to improve how emergency workers use mobile internet to provide medical care in rural areas.

[FirstNet board approves principles guiding future reinvestments of \\$15 billion into public-safety broadband system](#) (*Urgent Communications*, March 21)

FirstNet Authority board members today voted unanimously to approve a resolution outlining four key

principles that will be followed as the board determines how best to reinvest an estimated \$15 billion or more during the next two decades to fund the evolution of the FirstNet system being built and maintained by AT&T.

[Improving EMS patient care with communication technology](#) (*JEMS*, March 20)

We sat down with Chief Barry Luke, Deputy Executive Director at the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), to discuss how new communications technologies benefit EMS patient care. He said, "NG911 and FirstNet are complementary systems that will help prioritize and route data coming through public safety answering points (PSAPs). FirstNet provides a high-speed nationwide public safety broadband network, allowing first responders and public safety agencies to communicate with each other."

[Georgia homeland security: We rely on IoT and FirstNet for emergencies and disasters](#) (*TechRepublic*, March 15)

The state of Georgia is not only relying on AT&T's first responder network FirstNet for total and immediate coverage during emergency and disaster situations, it is also implementing smart cities and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions across police, fire, ambulance, and emergency management.

[Guam: Three reps highlight progress toward P25, NG911, and FirstNet](#) (*Urgent Communications*, March 13)

Paul Rolinski, emergency medical dispatcher for the Guam Fire Department; **John Bamba**, systems manager for the Guam Police Department; and **Leigh Pereda**, program manager for Guam's state and local implementation grant program; outline the public-safety-communications progress being made within the U.S. territory. Guam is pursuing technological upgrades to P25 and next-generation 911 (NG911), and AT&T has pledged to complete its FirstNet deployment on the island by March 2020.



Be social with FirstNet



FirstNet Authority @FirstNetGov · 19h

WATCH: @AAAAmbulance CIO Andy Geske shares how #FirstNet is transforming the way AAA crews communicate and handle medical emergencies in rural Mississippi. #FirstNetinAction #RuralHealth



FirstNet in Action: AAA Ambulance Service



FirstNet Authority @FirstNetGov · Mar 16

The #FirstNet network is providing a vital connection for #EMS, especially in #rural areas. With access to greater coverage, capacity, and communications tools, paramedics and EMTs are able to provide better care for patients. #AlwaysOn #PSAW19 #RuralHealth #PatientSafety



FirstNet's Legacy Will Be Rural America, EMT Leader Says



Bill Schrier @billschrier · 19h

On the @FirstNet Apps Webinar Ryan Seick of @Drakontas gives a very interactive demonstration of how the DForce app provides command, control and situational awareness for all responders at an incident scene. Another great #FirstNet Listed app.



NTIA Federal Register Notice

[Recruitment of First Responder Network Authority Board Members](#), March 19, 2019

FirstNet.gov

