



FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY | MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019



## 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:

**Tech to Protect contest unveils promising new public safety technologies**

Technology developers and innovators from across the country took part in the first round of the [Tech to Protect](#) coding challenge to develop apps that address communications challenges faced by first responders.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Public Safety Communications

Research (PSCR) division in partnership with the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) leads the nationwide coding challenge and offers cash prizes to participants with the most innovative emergency response solutions. From September 27-29, contest participants gathered in-person to compete in four U.S. cities – Chicago, Denver, College Station, Texas and Washington, D.C. to submit public safety projects in [10 technical category areas](#).

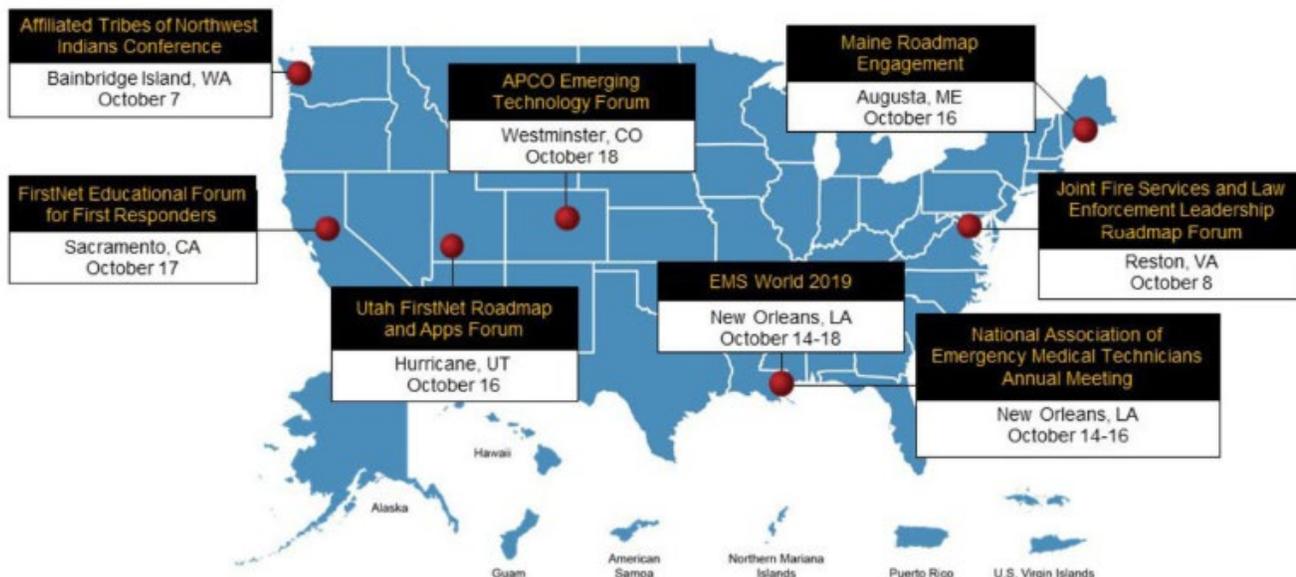
This challenge uniquely brings coders together with first responders from law enforcement, fire service and EMS to develop easy-to-use apps and bring more public safety technologies into the marketplace. By sharing experiences, first responders help coders solve communications issues by turning everyday technology into tangible, public safety specific solutions. Some applications presented at the contest focused on: sensor integration, proactive image protection, voice recognition assistance and secure picture functionality.

Coders can also submit proposals during the [online contest](#) or during the second [in-person round](#) from November 1-3 in Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Pittsburgh, San Francisco and Seattle. Experts from the FirstNet Authority will participate as technical and public safety subject matter experts throughout the contest.

Top participants from both the online and in-person contests will be invited to challenge each other at the April 2020 National Award Event to compete for cash prizes, mentorships and technology resources. For more information visit: <https://www.techtotoprotectchallenge.org/participate-in-person/>.



## Select Upcoming Public Safety Advocacy Engagements





## FirstNet in Action: Public safety's use and adoption of the network



### **Transforming the Future of Emergency Communications with FirstNet**

When the “Big Game” came to Atlanta, GA in February 2019, Jim Millsap, technical division chief for the Fulton County E9-1-1 Center, wanted to ensure they were prepared in the event the main E9-1-1 center needed to be evacuated. John Hunt, First Responder Network Authority 9-1-1 Senior Advisor details how Fulton County Emergency Services used FirstNet to support the backup center.

[Find out how Fulton County prepared for the unknown with FirstNet](#)



## Preparedness Month: Three Things to Know about FirstNet

Throughout the month of September, we recognized FEMA's annual preparedness campaign to promote readiness in the wake of a disaster. FirstNet Authority's Director of Field Operations for FirstNet North-Central Region, Lesia Dickson outlines how FirstNet is a vital tool that public safety can rely on when planning for emergencies.

[Read more about how FirstNet can help emergency managers be prepared](#)



## FirstNet Authority highlights FirstNet capabilities for New England public safety officials

The New Hampshire Department of Public Safety's Office of Interoperability hosted the FirstNet Authority for two User Forums – for New Hampshire and for Region I states. Public safety officials from across the region gathered to learn more about the FirstNet Authority Roadmap and had the opportunity to explore some FirstNet dedicated assets for first responders.

[Learn more about what was discussed, including the “debunking” of several myths about FirstNet](#)



## Regional Coverage

[Glick celebrates first responders, new tech at ceremony](#) (Wyoming Tribune Eagle, WY, September 28)

[FirstNet partnership in Wyoming](#) (KCWY, Wyoming, September 27)

[Web Coders compete in Tech to Protect challenge](#) (KBTX-TV, TX, September 29)

[Proud hackers at Ivy Tech](#) (Elkhart Truth, IN, September 27)

## National Coverage

[NIST, FirstNet Invite Masses to Compete in First Responder Coding Challenge](#) (Executive Gov, September 25)

[The Importance of Coverage to FirstNet's Success](#) (Mission Critical Communications, September 24)



Be social with FirstNet



**techtprotect**  
@techtprotect



Keep [#coding](#) strong, participants! They've teamed up and are now developing solutions for all of the [#TechToProtect](#) Contests covering a diverse range of public safety communications challenges.





**Jeanette Kennedy**  
@JKennedy\_FN



Si Yu'os Ma'åse' Gov. Leon Guerrero and Guam First Responders for engaging with FirstNet on the deployment of the NPSBN in Guam





**FirstNet Authority** ✓

@FirstNetGov



Congrats to the new recruits of the [@FDNY](#). Thank you for your service

**NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt** ✓ @NBCNightlyNews · Sep 24

301 new firefighters graduated from the Fire Academy in New York City today.

21 of them -- pictured here -- are children of men who died in the line of duty. 13 of them lost their fathers on 9/11.

@joefryer has their stories now on @NBCNightlyNews.





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Thank you to the [#publicsafety](#) officials accross [#Wyoming](#) for keeping our communities safe! And thank you to [@GovernorGordon](#) for making the safety of Wyomites a priority.



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

