



PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCACY UPDATE | DECEMBER 17, 2019



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FEATURED ADVOCACY ACTIVITY

PSAC December 2019 Meeting highlights past year's progress and previews FirstNet in 2020.

On December 10th, the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) hosted its bi-annual Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) meeting in Austin, Texas. The meeting brought together more than 20 PSAC members with FirstNet Authority leadership, senior staff, and Board members, as well as representatives from AT&T and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to discuss FirstNet's 2019 accomplishments, plans for network expansion in 2020, and initiatives to grow FirstNet's public safety ecosystem.

PSAC Chair **Todd Early** welcomed PSAC members with remarks that underscored the significance of the PSAC mission to ensure that first responders gain nationwide access to FirstNet. FirstNet Authority's **Ed Parkinson's** opening remarks highlighted PSAC's input on the FirstNet Roadmap and its six technology domains. These efforts were pivotal in developing a strategic plan to advance the network's future investments.

PSAC Chairman Todd Early lead discussions that included an overview of the Tribal Working Group's 2019 activities and accomplishments, PSAC's webinar series, and the newly implemented Strike Teams. Todd took the opportunity to welcome new PSAC members **Chief Greg Rubin** of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and **Reenie Askew** of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, both in attendance for their first PSAC meetings.

Todd welcomed **Jason Porter** as the new head of the AT&T FirstNet team and thanked him for his dedication to the

FirstNet mission. Jason highlighted **FirstNet adoption in 2019**, and continued plans for network deployment and expanded coverage in 2020.

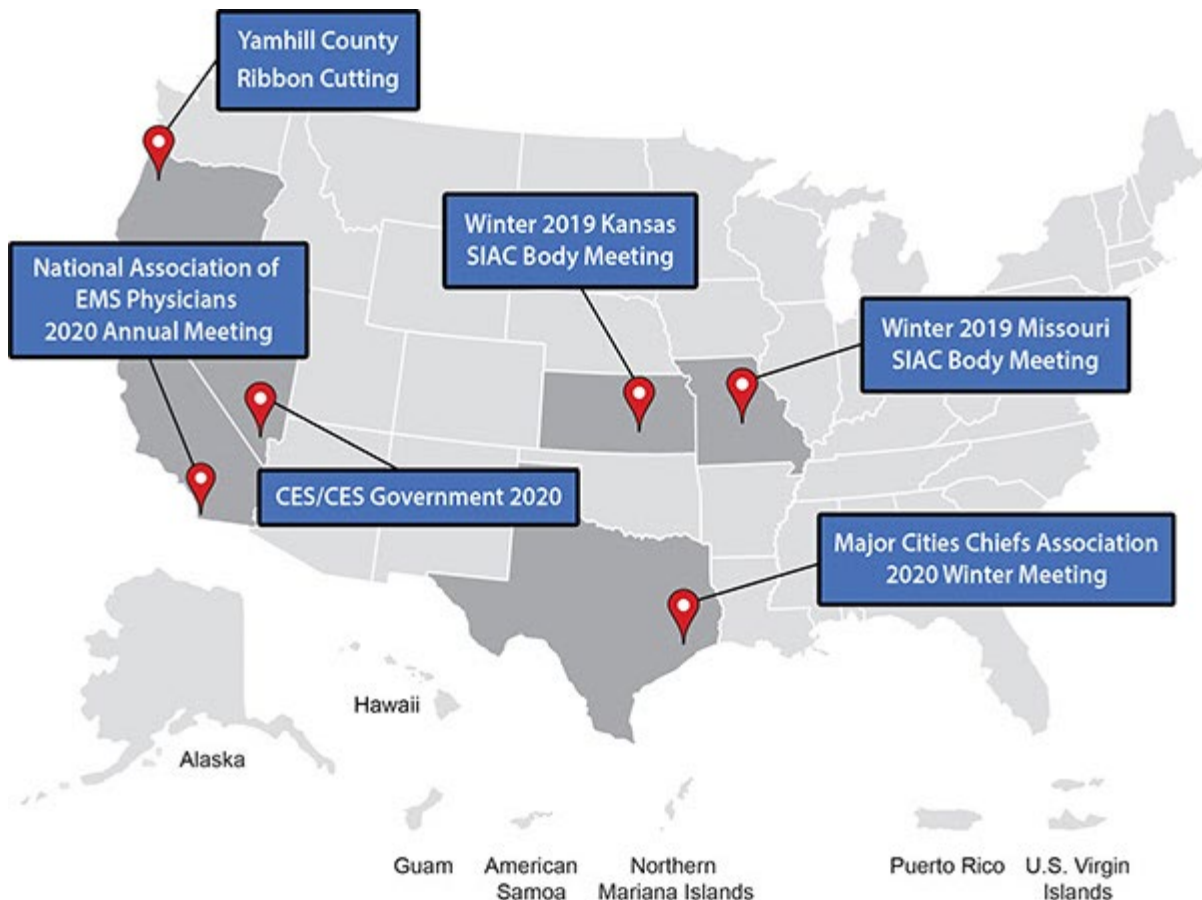
The PSAC also heard a detailed briefing from **John Beltz**, IT Security Manager for the Communication Technology Laboratory from NIST. John discussed the important work the team is doing around SIM card challenges and Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM) solutions.

During the afternoon sessions, the FirstNet Authority's Roadmap was central to the discussion. Focusing on Voice Communications and Situational Awareness, PSAC members took the opportunity to relay their personal experiences on the network, both day-to-day and during emergency response. The FirstNet Authority team discussed how the Roadmap will continue to guide the development and evolution of the network, and previewed the 2020 engagement strategy and approach with public safety stakeholders.

The day concluded with a demonstration by the Brazos County (TX) Sheriff's office showcasing their use of FirstNet. As the first Texas agency to officially subscribe to FirstNet, the network has improved situational awareness throughout the rural county.

Overall, the meeting showcased the PSAC's successful work in 2019, and brought productive and enthusiastic discussion about future work. Thank you to all participants and attendees. On behalf of the FirstNet Authority, we wish you and your families a very happy and healthy new year.

SELECT UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS



In-Person Events

Winter 2019 Kansas SIAC Body Meeting

Dec. 18, Wichita, KS

Yamhill County Ribbon Cutting

Dec. 18, Carlton, OR

Winter 2019 Missouri SIAC Meeting

Dec. 19, Jefferson City, MO

MCCA 2020 Winter Meeting

Jan. 7-9, 2020 Houston, TX

CES/CES Government 2020

Jan 7-10, 2020 Las Vegas, NV

NAEMSP 2020 Annual Meeting

Jan. 9-11, 2020 San Diego, CA

Online Events

FEMA Region III RECCWG Monthly Call

Dec. 18



FIRSTNET IN ACTION



Buffalo County Sheriff Receives Prestigious Public Safety Broadband Communications Award

Sheriff Neil A. Miller of Buffalo County was recently announced as the third recipient of the Chief Harlin R. McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award for his remarkable leadership and significant contributions to the advancement of public safety broadband communications across Nebraska.

[Read more about Sheriff Miller and how he helped transform Nebraska public safety communications.](#)



FirstNet Authority Highlights Network Advancements, Outlines Strategic Priorities

At its year-end meeting on December 5, the FirstNet Authority Board highlighted major areas of progress for FirstNet and outlined its priorities to ensure the continued evolution of the network and organization. This year saw continued momentum for FirstNet with expanded network deployment and growth in new public safety subscribers. Today, there are more than one million connections being used by more than 10,000 public safety agencies on FirstNet.

[Discover key milestones from 2019 and the Board's goals for 2020.](#)



PODCAST: Indiana's approach to LMR-LTE interoperability

In the latest installment of the FirstNet Authority Roadmap podcast series, we highlight the Voice Communications domain in a discussion with Executive Director of Indiana's Integrated Public Safety Commission Kelly Dignin on how her team is working to integrate the state's land mobile radio system with FirstNet.

[Hear how public safety agencies in Indiana are saving money and enhancing communications](#) (and don't forget to **subscribe!**).

FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage

Buffalo County Sheriff receives Public Safety Broadband Communications Award

Kearney Hub, NE, Dec. 6

New AT&T cell site boosting network speeds in Tallahassee

WTXL Tallahassee, FL, Dec. 9

National Coverage

FirstNet board holds year-end meeting, highlights progress and future priorities

Homeland Preparedness News, Dec. 9

FirstNet Authority Highlights Network Advancements, Outlines Strategic Priorities

The Critical Communications Review, Dec. 9

AT&T's giant blimp will provide network coverage to first responders

Endgadget, Dec. 4

AT&T's FirstNet build 75% complete; CFO says 'money well spent'

Fierce Wireless, Dec. 4

BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET

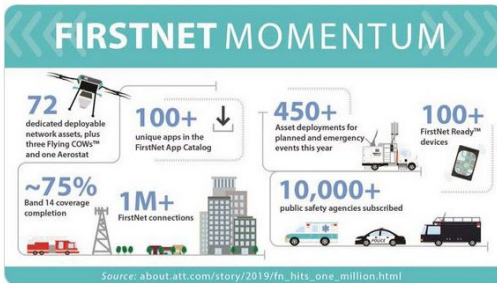


Building momentum on public safety's network:

- ✓ 1,000,000+ @FirstNet connections
- ✓ 10,000+ public safety agencies subscribed
- ✓ 100+ #FirstNet Ready devices
- ✓ 100+ unique apps

Learn more: about.att.com/story/2019/fn_...

#WeServeYou



#TechtoProtect is a nationwide coding challenge that connects developers with emergency responders to develop the tech they need. Watch our latest video to hear from participants at the in-person #codeathon in Miami. #TechforGood @NIST @techtoproject



Innovating for Public Safety: Tech to Protect Miami

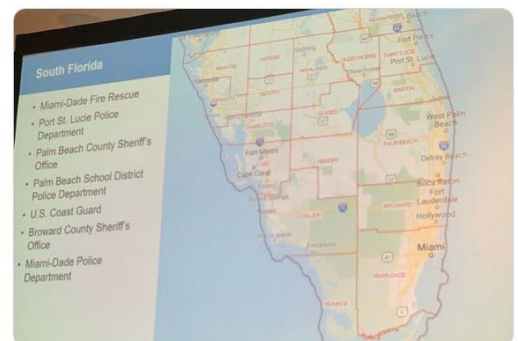
The FirstNet Authority supports Tech to Protect, a nationwide coding contest to find solutions for public safety communications. Miami was one of 10 locations to host an in-person coding contest.



I am proud @FirstNet and @ATT chose Tuskegee to test an innovative solution to support #PublicSafety and the future of communications for #firstresponders. Keeping with the spirit of the week, we are thankful for those that keep AL safe! #DisasterRecovery



Incredible roundtable presentations by agencies from S. FL on the usage of @FirstNet and how @FirstNetGov Board can help improve the network for #publicsafety throughout all of the US! Built for #FirstResponders



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.

