
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCACY UPDATE | June 29, 2020



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FEATURED ADVOCACY ACTIVITY

FirstNet Authority Board approves \$218 million in investments at quarterly meeting

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) held an open public FirstNet Board and Committee meeting on June 17th via teleconference. FirstNet Board Chair **Edward Horowitz** recognized our nation's first responders on the front lines of the coronavirus response and highlighted FirstNet's successful operation during the first truly national crisis since the network's inception.

The FirstNet Board took a major step to evolve the network by approving the first set of investments for enhancing FirstNet. Voting unanimously, the Board's decision will invest \$218 million to fund 5G upgrades to the FirstNet Core and expand the FirstNet fleet of deployable assets.

Together, these investments are important to keep pace with 5G advances and boost

on-demand coverage for public safety. FirstNet subscribers can look forward to faster network speeds, ultra-low latency, greater access to Internet of Things (IoT) and location services, and expanded network coverage and redundancy. In the coming months, we look forward to delivering these advancements for public safety and working to identify our next network investment opportunities.

In other FirstNet Board business, Ed Horowitz welcomed Darrin Jones, Executive Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)'s Science and Technology Branch, as the new Department of Justice designee to the FirstNet Board. The Board also heard updates from Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) Chair Todd Early about the FirstNet Roadmap implementation, addition of the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) to the PSAC, and successful expansion of the PSAC Executive Committee to include three new members:

- Kevin McGinnis, National Association of State EMS Officials
- Frank Minice, International Justice and Public Safety Network
- Mark Ryckman, International City/County Management Association

FirstNet Authority's PSAC Meets Virtually

On June 23rd, the PSAC held a business meeting to report on the operations and progress of recent working groups, and the FirstNet Authority's recent accomplishments and activities. In its update, the PSAC Executive Committee highlighted their webinar series, with recent topics including the FirstNet Core, Imminent Peril, FirstNet Push-to-Talk, and 3GPP standards work. The series was also an opportunity to collect valuable input to help inform the evolution of the network.

AT&T and the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Public Safety Communications Research Division (PSCR) also briefed the PSAC on major progress related to FirstNet's key network milestones, including over 1.3 million network connections from 12,000 subscribed public safety agencies, 100 FirstNet Ready Devices with more than 100 applications within the FirstNet application ecosystem, and the launch of FirstNet Push-to-Talk.



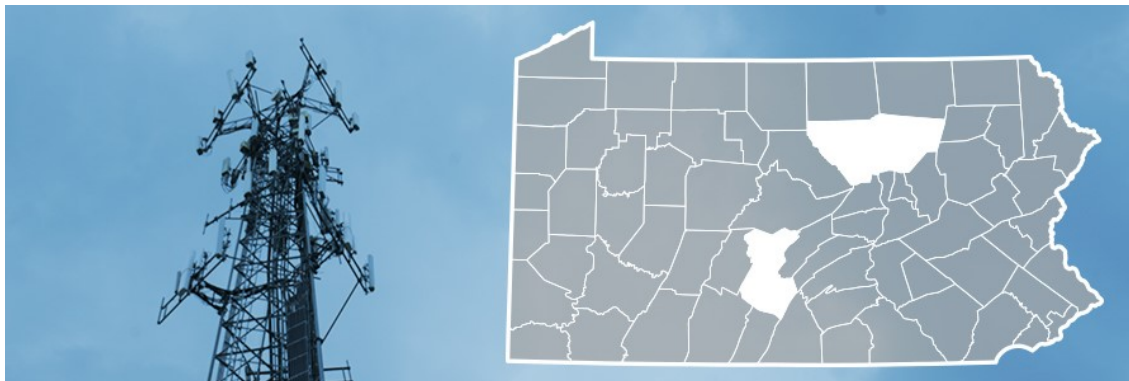
FIRSTNET IN ACTION



The FirstNet Network Expands Across Delaware, Advances Public Safety Communications Capabilities

Delaware's first responders got a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of purpose-built FirstNet cell sites and other network enhancements statewide. This new infrastructure is a part of the FirstNet network expansion taking place across the state, bringing increased coverage, capacity, and capabilities for public safety.

Learn how the new infrastructure will improve connectivity for first responders [here](#).



The FirstNet Network Expands Across Pennsylvania, Advances Public Safety Communications Capabilities

Pennsylvania's first responders got a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of new, purpose-built FirstNet cell sites and other network enhancements statewide. These sites were identified by state and public safety stakeholders as priority locations, bringing increased coverage, capacity, and capabilities for first responders.

Learn more about how the new infrastructure will help advance public safety in our latest press release [here](#).



The FirstNet Network Expands Across Maryland, Advances Public Safety Communications Capabilities

Maryland's first responders got a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of new, purpose-built FirstNet cell sites and other network enhancements statewide. The sites help Maryland's first responders connect to the critical information they need – every day and in every emergency.

Learn how the new infrastructure will help advance public safety [here](#).



New FirstNet Cell Site Launches in Monterey to Support Public Safety

Monterey's first responders are getting a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of a new, purpose-built cell site. The site – located in Monterey – is part of the FirstNet network expansion taking place in Massachusetts, which is bringing increased coverage, capacity, and capability to first responders across the state.

Learn how the new infrastructure will help advance public safety [here](#).



The First Responder Network Authority Technology Domain: Secure Information Exchange

This is the fifth entry in a blog series that will explore the six FirstNet Authority Roadmap domains. The FirstNet Authority developed the Roadmap to guide FirstNet's growth over the next five years.

Read more about the Secure Information Exchange domain in our latest [blog](#).



Meet the Public Safety Advocacy Team in the North Region

The FirstNet Authority's Public Safety Advocacy team works hand-in-hand with public safety to make sure their needs are represented in the FirstNet network buildout and evolution. In the North region, six public safety advisors cover 16 states and bring a wealth of public safety expertise to their roles as advocates.

Get to know the team [here](#).



FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage

AT&T completes \$3.3 billion mobile network upgrade

FlaPol, FL, June 24

AT&T Announces It Has Invested Around \$3.7B to Keep Dallas Connected

Dallas Innovates, June 15

National Coverage

FirstNet Authority board approves \$218 million investment into 5G core, deployable assets

Urgent Communications, June 18

BRIEF: FirstNet to Receive \$218M for 5G, Other Upgrades

Government Technology, June 17

FirstNet Board greenlights \$200M for network core upgrades, more deployable assets

Fierce Wireless, June 17

FirstNet board gives thumbs up to 5G, deployables investment GCN, June 17

FirstNet allocates \$218M for 5G core, coverage improvements Light Reading, June 17



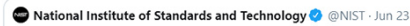
BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET



You can now get the latest news and updates from your state or territory, right on our website! Meet your Public Safety Advisor and find out how [#FirstNet](#) is being used in your area: [firstnet.gov/public-safety/...](https://firstnet.gov/public-safety/)



We were thrilled to chat with Ellen Ryan earlier this year on the Public Safety First [#podcast](#). She discussed her work at the [@NIST](#) Public Safety Communications Research division, leading grant/prize challenges to advance [#publicsafety](#) comms. soundcloud.com/user-472553784... [#INWED20](#)



NIST's Ellen Ryan has served as a pioneer for women in engineering. Learn how her personal mission to pave the way for others brought her to us: [nist.gov/news-events/ne... #INWED20 #ShapeTheWorld](#)



Join Director Kelly Dignin and [@FirstNetGov](#) tomorrow June 24th at 2pm EST for a webinar discussing Indiana's latest interoperability platform linking LMR (land mobile radio) to LTE (long term evolution). You can register here: surveymonky.com/r/IN-LMR-LTEw...



[#FirstNet's](#) deployable assets have supported hundreds of events, from hurricanes and tornadoes to large planned events. This week, the [#FirstNetAuthority](#) Board approved investment funds to expand the fleet. Learn about the deployable program: firstnet.gov/sites/default/...



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FirstNet Deployables in Action

FirstNet's dedicated deployables provide coverage/capacity to public safety at no cost to subscribers. Deployables have supported hundreds of operations including natural disasters and planned events.

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.



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