
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCACY UPDATE | AUGUST 10, 2020



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FEATURED ADVOCACY ACTIVITY

PSCR 2020: The Digital Experience

For the last decade, the National Institute of Standards and Technology's **Public Safety Communications Research Division** (PSCR) has hosted an annual Stakeholder Meeting, bringing together public safety, academia, government, and industry professionals to explore the latest in public safety communications research. This year, **PSCR 2020** went virtual, allowing online participants to tune into leading experts on topics such as location-based services, data analytics, and user interfaces/user experience.

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) was pleased to join this year's conference. Each year, our participation provides a glimpse into the future of public safety technology use and potential technology advances for first responders. Throughout the conference, discussions were focused on ways to cultivate smart solutions to address the communication challenges faced by emergency responders when protecting communities nationwide.

One highlight included FirstNet Authority Board Chair **Edward Horowitz** sitting down with PSCR Division Chief **Dereck Orr** for a **Fireside Chat** to discuss the FirstNet Authority's **recent innovation efforts** for the FirstNet network. They also highlighted the partnership between the FirstNet Authority and PSCR and **upcoming opportunities for continued collaboration**.

Our team of public safety experts participated in multiple sessions and interactive panels by discussing innovation challenges, standards work, the FirstNet Authority Roadmap, and the FirstNet Authority's role in spurring innovation in public safety technology, including:

- Tech to Protect – A Year in Review: FirstNet Authority Senior Public Safety

Advisor **Bill Schrier** and FirstNet Authority Public Safety Applications Architect **Charles Hardnett** joined a panel to discuss the **Tech to Protect** challenge to develop solutions for public safety communications.

- 3GPP Standards Status Update: FirstNet Authority Senior Director of Standards **Dean Prochaska** and the FirstNet Authority Standards Team provided an overview of how the FirstNet Authority is working with standards organizations like **the Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP)** and what the future holds for standards related to public safety communications, including mission-critical features, land mobile radio to LTE interworking, and 5G.
- FirstNet: Transforming Public Safety Communications: FirstNet Authority's **Brian Hobson** and **Karlin Younger** highlighted the FirstNet public-private partnership, the FirstNet Authority Roadmap, and how to get involved with **the Accelerate R2 Network Challenge** to develop innovative tools for disaster response and resiliency.

The FirstNet Authority looks forward to future opportunities to work collaboratively with PSCR to advance public safety communications.

FIRSTNET IN ACTION



Tech Talk: June 29-July 2, 2020 3GPP Plenary e-Meeting Recap

This [blog post](#) is part of the "Tech Talk" series focused on the FirstNet Authority's standards development activities to support public safety. This post recaps discussions linked to public safety and other related topics from the 3GPP Plenary meetings that were conducted online June 29 – July 3, 2020. The FirstNet Authority represented public safety interests at the Plenary meetings.

Ehrin Ehler Billy Freeman Chuck Murph Gerald Risner David Cook Lori Stone Bruce Fitzgerald

Meet the Public Safety Advocacy Team
for the East Region

Meet the Public Safety Advocacy Team in the Eastern Region

The FirstNet Authority's Public Safety Advocacy team proactively reaches out to public safety to discuss FirstNet and elicit feedback and insight regarding their communications needs for public safety broadband and innovative technologies.

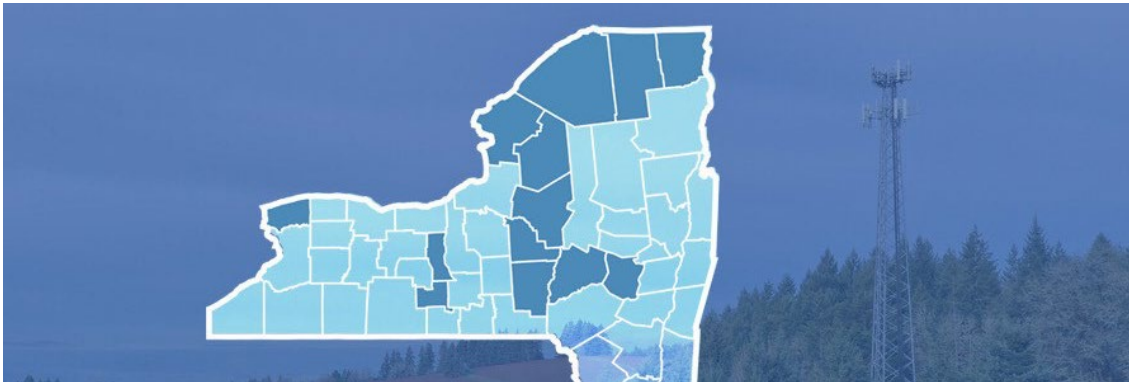
In the East region, the **team** includes seven public safety advisors covering a geographically diverse region of 19 states.



FirstNet will make a “difference between life and death” for Makah Tribe

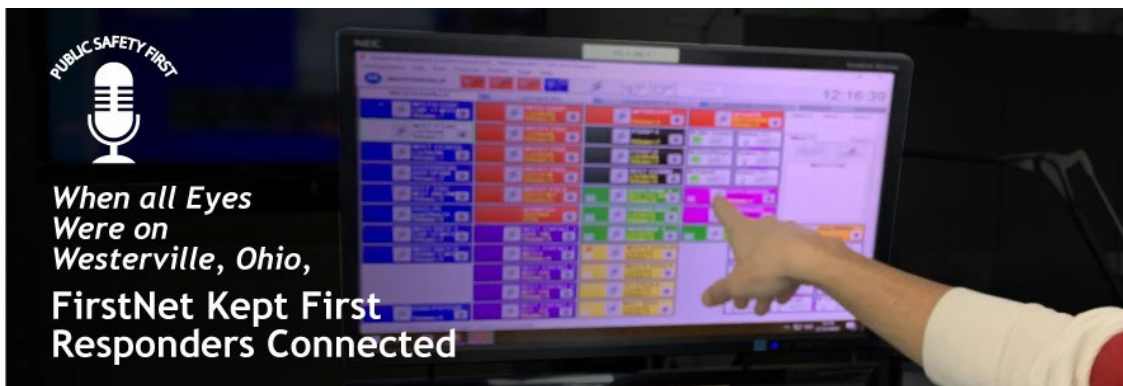
The Makah Tribe has called the Pacific Northwest home for thousands of years. With over 1,100 square miles of land and sea to patrol and the looming threat of tsunamis, reliable communications are crucial for the tribe's first responders. Like many tribes across Indian Country, the Makah Tribe is looking to FirstNet to help solve their communication challenges.

This *TribalNet Magazine* **blog** highlights the FirstNet Authority's engagement with the Makah Tribe.



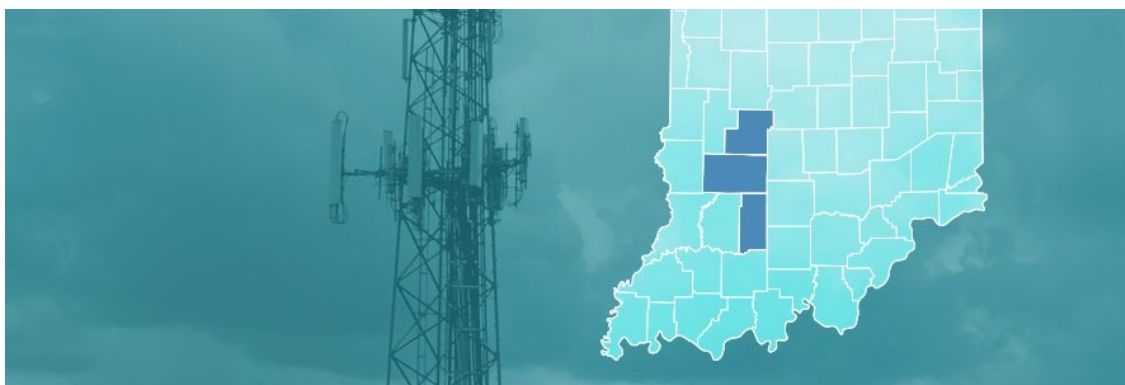
The FirstNet Network Expands Across New York to Advance Public Safety Communications Capabilities

New York's first responders are getting a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of 22 new, purpose-built FirstNet **cell sites** and other network enhancements. This new infrastructure is part of the FirstNet network expansion taking place across the state, bringing increased coverage, capacity, and capabilities for public safety.



When all Eyes Were on Westerville, Ohio, FirstNet Kept First Responders Connected

When Otterbein University in Ohio played host to the 2019 Democratic presidential debate, thousands flocked to the City of Westerville to attend. During the event, the Westerville Police Department used FirstNet and drones to capture live, high-definition video and relay it to the emergency operations center, improving situational awareness and decision-making. Our latest [podcast](#) highlights the City of Westerville's experience transitioning to FirstNet.



The FirstNet Network Expands Across Southwest Indiana to Advance Public Safety Communications Capabilities

Southwest Indiana's first responders got a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of new, purpose-built FirstNet cell sites and other public safety-specific network enhancements across the area. 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 this new infrastructure will improve connectivity for area first responders in this [press release](#).



FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage

[New network to helps emergency services in Oneida County](#)

Utica Observer Dispatch, August 4

[AT&T launches nationwide 5G network, adding 18 Puerto Rico towns](#)

News Is My Business, August 4

New towers to boost signals for area first responders

Rome Sentinel, July 30

FirstNet executes NY expansion effort

Homeland Preparedness News, August 3

BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET



FirstNet Authority
@FirstNetGov

Meet the #FirstNetAuthority's #EMS expert, Brent Williams! After 11 years as an "officer with a stethoscope" with @InghamCoSheriff, Brent joined @MichiganHHS as an EMS radio comms expert. Find out what Brent sees as the future with @FirstNet: [firstnet.gov/public-safety/...](https://firstnet.gov/public-safety/)



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U.S. Commerce Dept.
@CommerceGov

Want to learn more about FirstNet in your area? Meet your designated @FirstNetGov Public Safety Advisor here: [firstnet.gov/public-safety/...](https://firstnet.gov/public-safety/)



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#FirstNetintheNews – Read about the innovative ways @NIST's Public Safety Communications Research division and the FirstNet Authority are working to advance #publicsafety comms (via @RCRWireless). rcrwireless.com/20200727/publi...



FirstNet Authority
@FirstNetGov

With Quality of Service on @FirstNet, #firstresponders have access to the data they need, when and where they need it. Learn more about the network that is specifically designed for first responders' needs: firstnet.gov/network



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.



Our mailing address is:

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