



PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCACY UPDATE | AUGUST 24, 2020



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FEATURED ADVOCACY ACTIVITY



U.S. Commerce Secretary appoints new FirstNet Authority Board Chair; FirstNet Board approves FY 2021 Budget

Last week, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross appointed **Robert Tipton (Tip) Osterthaler** to serve as **Chair of the First Responder Network Authority** (FirstNet Authority) Board. Tip was first appointed to the Board in 2018, serving as the Finance Committee Chair and on the Governance and Personnel Committee. He is a retired U.S. Air Force Brigadier General and also served as a private sector CEO in the technology and business industries.

Tip succeeds **Edward Horowitz**, who completed his two-year term as Chair, and will remain on the Board until his term expires in August 2021. Horowitz oversaw numerous landmark accomplishments for the FirstNet Authority, including the initial deployment of the FirstNet Network, the launch of the FirstNet Authority Roadmap, and the development and initiation of the first set of investments for enhancing the network.

Board Vice Chair Sheriff Richard Stanek also announced his retirement from the Board following his six years of service. The FirstNet Authority thanks both Edward Horowitz and Sheriff Stanek for their dedication and leadership.

Also last week, the FirstNet Authority Board convened its annual Finance Committee and Board meeting. During the meeting, the Board approved a **\$213 million budget** for Fiscal Year 2021 focused on organizational operations and investments in the FirstNet network.

Specifically, the Board allocated \$83.5 million to the FirstNet Authority's operating budget, \$83.5 million to operation reserves, and \$46 million for investments to support FirstNet network enhancements. "This budget provides steady funding for the FirstNet Authority and continues our momentum for investing back into the FirstNet network," said Horowitz. "We will continue to engage with public safety to ensure the network delivers the attributes outlined in the strategic plan and the FirstNet Authority Roadmap and evolves along with technology and operational needs."

For more on the FirstNet Authority, visit firstnet.gov.

FIRSTNET IN ACTION



Building Public Safety's Network

With decades of experience in both the public and private sector, new FirstNet Authority Board Chair Tip Osterthaler **shares** how he will work with public safety and draw on the strengths of FirstNet's unique public-private partnership to enhance public safety's network.



Championing Public Safety's Network

As a former Sheriff and elected official in the state of Minnesota, **Richard Stanek** has been engaged in public safety communications at the local, state, and national levels throughout his career. From working on a statewide LMR network to setting up a state-of-the-art 911 center to serving six years on the FirstNet Authority Board, he has seen firsthand how technology can help first responders do their jobs safer and more efficiently.



FirstNet Authority and IWCE Virtual 2020

This week, the FirstNet Authority joins the International Wireless Communications Exposition (IWCE) Virtual 2020. From August 24 to 27, the FirstNet team will be participating in four panel discussions, including a keynote presentation delivered by FirstNet Authority's CEO Ed Parkinson. For more information about the FirstNet Authority's participation, please see the conference details listed below.

*Tues., Aug. 25 at 11:00 am - **Ed Parkinson, Keynote Presentation***

Recorded remarks - LIVE Chat

*Wed., Aug. 26 at 1:30 pm - **Dave Buchanan, Jeremy Zollo, and Brian Hobson, FirstNet Authority***

FirstNet Authority's Roadmap and Investment Presentation

*Wed., Aug. 26 at 3:00 pm - **Bill Schrier, FirstNet Authority** (moderator)*

FirstNet in Action Panel – Recorded with LIVE chat

*Wed., Aug. 26 at 4:30 pm - **Travis Hull, FirstNet Authority** (panelist)*

LTE Coverage Update: HPUE - Recorded with LIVE chat



Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) Profile: International Association of Emergency Managers

The **International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)** is dedicated to promoting the principles of emergency management and the work of those who protect communities during emergencies and disasters. As a member of the FirstNet Authority's PSAC, IAEM provides input on issues that are essential to emergency managers.



Alachua County Fire and Rescue Uses FirstNet in Everyday Operations

Alachua County Fire and Rescue's everyday operations depend on FirstNet. The EMS team uses FirstNet for priority services and to send health data directly from the ambulance to the hospital.



FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage

How Modern Tech Helps Police in the City of Arlington Stay Connected

StateTech Magazine, August 17

AT&T eyes cell service improvements on south end of Bainbridge Island

Kitsap Sun, August 13

AT&T's exclusive FirstNet to boost mobile network capacity for first responders

NewsCenter 1, August 12

Great Falls Police Department year-end review: Here's what you need to know

Great Falls Tribune, August 10

National Coverage

Morning Tech

POLITICO Pro Technology's morning newsletter, August 18

FirstNet Board Approves 2021 Budget

RadioResource Media Group, August 18

As FirstNet gets 5G-ready, first responder network approaches 1.5 million connections

RCR Wireless, August 13

AT&T says FirstNet is faster than the company's own core network

Fierce Wireless, August 11



BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET



Don't miss #FirstNetAuthority CEO Ed Parkinson's (@EdPFirstNet) keynote address at #IWCE2020! Tune in Tuesday, August 25 at 11 am ET for the latest network updates and to learn more about the FirstNet Authority. Details at: [iwceexpo.com/iwce20/Public/...](http://iwceexpo.com/iwce20/Public/)

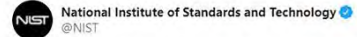
Join the FirstNet Authority at IWCE



IWCE Virtual

Ed Parkinson
Keynote Presentation
Recorded remarks / LIVE Chat
Tues., Aug. 25 @ 11:00am (ET)

FirstNet Authority Retweeted



Computer vision researchers and public safety, unite! We've teamed up with @FirstNetGov to launch the Computer Vision Challenge this September. Compete for up to \$240K in prizes: nist.gov/ctl/pscr/open-... #FundingOpportunity



Enhancing Computer Vision for Public Safety Challenge

Launching AUG. 25

\$240,000 in Prizes



With a rising need for remote connectivity, some fire departments are updating continuity of operations plans (COOP) to incorporate today's latest technologies. Learn more in our summer newsletter for the fire service - sign up at [FirstNet.gov/newsletters!](http://FirstNet.gov/newsletters)

Wireless demand is surging: Does your fire department's COOP include FirstNet?

Read it first at firstnet.gov/newsletters

FirstNet Authority @FirstNetGov · Aug 15

This week we celebrated the 1-year anniversary of the #FirstNetAuthority Roadmap! The Roadmap is structured around 6 tech domains representing capabilities important to #publicsafety operations. Check out FirstNet.gov/Roadmap to learn more about the domains!



The FirstNet Authority ROADMAP

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.

