THE FIRSTNET AUTHORITY UPDATE | OCTOBER 19, 2020

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FEATURED ADVOCACY ACTIVITY

FirstNet Authority hosts two-part webinar for Maine's public safety leaders

The FirstNet Authority recently hosted the State of Maine FirstNet Summit 2020 for local public safety professionals. The two-part series was an opportunity for law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services, emergency management, and 9-1-1 agencies to learn more about FirstNet's capabilities, the Roadmap's technology domains, and the network's build out across Maine.

The first webinar in the series focused on the Roadmap's coverage and capacity domains. The FirstNet Authority's **Mike Varney** and **Gary McCarraher** and the FirstNet State Point of Contact for Maine **David Maxwell** opened the summit by welcoming the public safety entities who tuned into the virtual event, including representatives from the Penobscot County Sheriff's Department, Cumberland County 9-1-1, Winthrop Police Department, and the State of Maine.

Adam Geisler and **Nicole Ugarte** presented information about the Roadmap Coverage and Capacity and Voice Domains. Adam and Nicole gathered input from the group about their operational needs, and discussed the benefits of FirstNet's dedicated assets to supplement coverage and capacity during an incident or planned event and the network's Band 14 capabilities to support voice communications.

AT&T's Network Planning Engineer **Joe Sebastiano** provided an overview of Maine's FirstNet expansion. In addition, AT&T's Mission Critical Solutions Regional Director **Chris Brown** detailed LMR-LTE interconnection capabilities using FirstNet.

During the second webinar, the FirstNet Authority team welcomed guest speaker Intrepid Networks' Business Development Manager **Cecilia Trinh**, who presented on the application's capabilities and functionalities and shared customer testimonials. AT&T's Mission Critical Solutions Director **Brian Maholic** described FirstNet's emerging expansion efforts, and AT&T's FirstNet Associate Director **Fred Scalera** provided an overview of the newest deployables and customer owned and maintained (COAM)s underway.

The FirstNet Authority looks forward to continuing to work alongside its public safety partners in the State of Maine to enhance emergency communications across the state.

FIRSTNET IN ACTION

FirstNet Authority connects digitally at ReIGNITE Virtual Conference

The FirstNet Authority is taking part in **several panel discussions**, as well as a virtual booth for the International Association of Fire Chiefs' 2020 Fire-Rescue International ReIGNITE conference. Throughout the event, attendees can learn about FirstNet's innovations for public safety agencies and the features available to them through the network.

FirstNet Network expands across Massachusetts, South Carolina, and North Dakota to advance public safety communications

First responders in **Massachusetts**, **South Carolina**, and **North Dakota** are getting a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of new, purpose-built FirstNet cell sites. This new infrastructure is a part of the FirstNet network expansion that is bringing increased coverage, capacity, and capabilities for public safety.

Supporting communities in need and increasing officer safety with FirstNet

Law enforcement officers interact with many people every day, and each individual has unique needs. Generalized assistance does not help every person, so agencies are turning to **innovative technology and applications** to provide individualized support to people in crisis, like those struggling with drug or alcohol dependence. FirstNet is supporting this innovation with a secure, reliable network and a catalog of apps for first responders.

Tech Talk: September 14-21, 2020 3GPP Plenary Meeting Recap

The momentum continued at the **September 2020 3GPP Plenary meetings** with Release 17 (R17) work fully underway. Several studies are moving into the normative work phase and address public safety areas of interest, including enhanced location services, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) such as drones, direct mode enhancements including sidelink relay, and 5G multicast-broadcast.

Episode 44: A Texas land mobile radio network reaches new heights with FirstNet

Harris County, Texas, was one of the early adopters of FirstNet. As the nation's third most populous county, first responders in the area need to be prepared for any event. The Harris County Radio Services Organization operates the regional radio system for public safety in Harris County, and FirstNet allows them augment that radio system in remote areas and in times of heavy network congestion.

Submissions for FirstNet Board Open

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is seeking **candidates for the FirstNet Board with a submission deadline of today, October 19, 2020**. Appointments will be made by the Secretary of Commerce by January 2021. NTIA seeks a diverse candidate pool that will collectively represent the interests of public safety and industry.

FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage
AT&T adds new towers boosting coverage and speeds throughout Clermont County
(The Clermont Sun, October 9)

Responders: AT&T cell tower upgrades will be beneficial
(The Tribune Democrat, October 7)

FirstNet expands responder communications in Sawyer area
(Minot Daily News, October 5)

National Coverage
US Army signs up 72 bases for FirstNet
(RCR Wireless News, October 13)

Assured Wireless announces HPUE products that extend range of FirstNet devices on Band 14
(Urgent Communications, October 9)

BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET

FirstNet Authority ✓
@FirstNetGov

For Tabitha Smithers, an emergency aviation flight nurse and volunteer paramedic in Goochland County, #Virginia, staying connected is key to serving patients in #rural areas. Hear why she relies on @FirstNet to close comms gaps in the field. #ENweek #ENday

Episode 31: FirstNet closing communications gaps in rural Vir...
FirstNet Authority Senior Public Safety Advisor Lori Stone is joined by Tabitha Smithers, an emergency aviation flight nurse...
⬮ soundcloud.com

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The @R2Network_ is launching in 2021! This network will provide a national platform for #firstresponders to collaborate on technologies to address disaster response and resiliency challenges. Learn more at r2network.com.

R2 NETWORK ANNOUNCED
Register for the Nov. 10th webinar for more details

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.@IAFC #ReIGNITE2020 starts next week! Join the #FirstNetAuthority public safety experts @chiefvarney, @GaryMccarraher, @KevinRNida1, and Chris Baker as they share the latest on @FirstNet and the #fire service. eventscribe.com/2020/FRI/

The FirstNet Authority is at IAFC ReIGNITE 2020
October 19-22

#ReIGNITE2020

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#HealthcareSecurityandSafetyWeek – Learn how @FirstNet is enhancing #patientsafety at @UFHealth, every day and during emergencies. When seconds matter, #FirstNet connects staff to the resources and info they need. #FirstNetinAction #Florida

quickly and easily without necessarily having to talk to the person, but on the other hand,

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FirstNet and Patient Safety
University of Florida Health uses FirstNet across their facilities to connect personnel to the resources and information they need.

The FirstNet Authority 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.