
THE FIRSTNET AUTHORITY UPDATE | SEPTEMBER 7, 2021



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FEATURED PUBLIC SAFETY ENGAGEMENT

PSAC takes stock of FirstNet momentum during annual business meeting, announces new interim PSAC Chair

By Kenzie Capece, Senior Public Safety Advisor, First Responder Network Authority

On August 26, the First Responder Network Authority's Public Safety Advisory Committee held a business meeting to report on committee operations, progress of recent working groups, and FirstNet Authority's most recent accomplishments and activities.

Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) Chair **Todd Early** welcomed members with remarks that focused on his retirement from the PSAC and his appreciation for the work and expertise the PSAC provides to the First Responder Network Authority, or FirstNet Authority.

FirstNet Authority Board Chair **Tip Osterthaler** and CEO **Ed Parkinson** announced that longtime PSAC and Executive Committee member **Jonathan Olson**, representing the National EMS Management Association, would serve as interim PSAC Chair, effective upon Todd's retirement. Tip and Ed also took this opportunity to thank Todd for his leadership, guidance, and commitment to grow the FirstNet network during the years he served on the PSAC, including the three years serving as its chair.

[Read the full PSAC business meeting summary](#)



SELECT UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

NAPCO Monthly Meeting

September 9

IACP 2021 Annual Conference and Expo (virtual)

September 11-14

PSAC Tribal Working Group September Teleconference

September 14

Oregon APCO/NENA Training Center

September 14-17

For interest in attendance for any of our webinars, please email Outreach@firstnet.gov.



FIRSTNET IN ACTION



Remembering 9/11 and how it changed public safety communications

Twenty years ago, the 9/11 terrorist attacks forever changed our nation – and set a new course for the way public safety communicates. The FirstNet Authority’s law enforcement expert, Harry Markley, reflects on his experiences on 9/11 and how today public safety communications are different with FirstNet, the nation’s public safety broadband network.

Read [the full blog](#) to learn how 9/11 impacted emergency communications.



PSAC Profile: International Municipal Signal Association

The International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) is dedicated to the safe installation, operation, and maintenance of public safety systems, representing over 8,800 members employed by government organizations and industry. IMSA has been an important member of the Public Safety Advisory Committee, working to ensure the FirstNet network is designed to support all aspects of public safety’s critical communications needs.

Read the latest [PSAC Profile blog](#) to discover how IMSA supports first responders and helps advance public safety communications.



Live-streaming drone video helps Texas responders get back on track after train derailment

Burleson County is a small, rural county east of Austin, Texas. The Burleson County Sheriff's Office serves the county through law enforcement, corrections, and dispatch services. The Sheriff's Office launched its drone program to enhance situational awareness during emergencies and planned events. As a rural county, connectivity is key, and FirstNet ensures footage from the drones can be streamed back in real time to decision-makers on the ground.

[Listen to the latest episode](#) of the Public Safety First podcast to hear how FirstNet helped first responders gather critical information while responding to a train derailment.



FirstNet connects emergency management in Maine after flash flooding

When sudden, intense rainfall caused flash flooding and washed out roads in Washington County, Maine, the county's emergency management director was stranded in town and unable to physically reach the emergency operations center. FirstNet enabled her to remain connected to her staff and other officials to coordinate their response remotely.

Learn how FirstNet kept responders connected in [this blog on the flash flooding in Maine](#).



The FirstNet Network advances public safety communication capabilities

First responders across the country 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.

Read more about the benefits for first responders in [Southeast Missouri](#) and [Northern Minnesota](#).



FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

National Coverage

Born out of 9/11, FirstNet Provides Nationwide Network for Emergency Communications

Tower Times, Volume 4, July-August 2021

FirstNet board approves authority's operations, investment budget

Homeland Preparedness News, August 20

Technology, Safety, And FirstNet: The Impact Of 9/11 On Modern Firefighting

National Volunteer Fire Council, August 24

AT&T confirms that Samsung developed FirstNet PTT, the initial MCPTT offering in the U.S.

Urgent Communications, August 24

Technology, Safety, and FirstNet: The Impact of 9/11 on Modern Firefighting

National Volunteer Fire Council, August 24

FirstNet and Wildfire Response Operations: 5 Things You Need to Know

Fire Engineering, August 25

9/11 doc 'Chief' preserves FDNY history on screen and beyond

Associated Press News, August 29

Communications from 9/11 to COVID-19

Police Chief Magazine, September 1

Regional Coverage

Congressman, state officials and AT&T official celebrate rural broadband expansion

Daily Journal Online, August 30

9/11 Documentary 'Chief' Preserves FDNY History On Screen and Beyond

NBC New York, August 31

BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET



FirstNet Authority
@FirstNetGov

The tragedies of 9/11 revealed fundamental problems with communication systems used by first responders. In response, Congress created the FirstNet Authority. Learn about the history behind America's [#publicsafety](#) broadband network: [Firstnet.gov/history](https://firstnet.gov/history) [#NeverForget](#)



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It's [#WomensEqualityDay](#)! Discover how three women in technology and engineering are making a difference for public safety, and hear their advice for other [#WomeninSTEM](#): soundcloud.com/user-472553784...



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Did you miss our summer newsletters in your inbox? Find them on our website and hear from FirstNet Authority experts in [#LawEnforcement](#), [#EMS](#), [#EmergencyManagement](#), [#911](#), and the [#FireService](#).

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FirstNet Authority Retweeted



Integrated Public Safety Commission
@IPSC_Indiana

IPSC will be hosting a FREE live demonstration of CRD (Compact Rapid Deployable) COW for [@FirstNet](#) Wednesday 9/1/21 at our Radio Shop located at 128 SouthPark Blvd. Greenwood, IN. Demonstration times: 10am – 11am and 1:30pm – 2:30pm RSVP: forms.office.com/pages/response...



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.

