



THE FIRSTNET AUTHORITY UPDATE | SEPTEMBER 20, 2021



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FEATURED PUBLIC SAFETY ENGAGEMENT

FirstNet: The History of our Nation's Public Safety Network

On the 20th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks, the public safety community reflected on that difficult time. During 9/11, first responders could not easily communicate over existing networks. In the aftermath, public safety leaders campaigned for a **reliable, interoperable communications network** dedicated to emergency communication. Congress created the **First Responder Network Authority** (FirstNet Authority) to oversee the creation and delivery of a single wireless broadband network for public safety, known today as **FirstNet**.

FirstNet was designed and is being built with the **advice of public safety professionals**. With FirstNet, first responders gained access to advanced **communications technology and tools** to help them keep communities safe and themselves safe. Through a **public-private partnership between the FirstNet Authority and AT&T**, public safety has access to a truly dedicated nationwide network.

Today, over 17,000 public safety agencies and organizations **subscribe to FirstNet**. With more than 2.5 million connections and **thousands of responders** relying on FirstNet for their wireless communication needs, the network is helping to support mission critical operations, enhance situational awareness, secure essential information, and power apps and devices that deliver actionable data.

The **FirstNet Authority's story** is indelibly linked to September 11, 2001. In memory of those who lost their lives on September 11, **thank you to the first responders, technology experts, and policy leaders** whose dedication has helped make FirstNet a reality.

Watch our "Reflecting on 9/11" video

As part of marking the September 11 anniversary, the FirstNet Authority **released a video** featuring FirstNet Authority staff, board members, and representatives of the Public Safety Advisory Committee. Thank you again to all of those who participated.

SELECT UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

BayRICS Public Safety Broadband Working Group	September 23
Texas Electric Cooperatives Engineering Conference	September 24
IWCE Annual Conference	September 27-30
PSAC Executive Committee September Teleconference	September 27
Mobile Applications Integral to Public Safety Webinar	September 28
New England Association of Chiefs of Police Training Conference	October 3-6

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

FIRSTNET IN ACTION



Technology, safety, and FirstNet: the impact of 9/11 on modern firefighting

The tragedies of 9/11 underscored fundamental problems with communication systems used by our nation's first responders. In the 20 years since 9/11, technology has changed rapidly. Fortunately, dedicated public safety broadband offered by FirstNet is providing fire departments with powerful new capabilities and modernizing their communications.

Discover how fire service operations have changed in the last 20 years in [this blog on the evolution of technology in firefighting](#).



FirstNet is 'Force Multiplier' for Nebraska Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Neil Miller of the Buffalo County Sheriff's Office in Nebraska began implementing mobile data more than 20 years ago, and he continues to bring advanced technologies to increase the efficiency of operations for deputies. With FirstNet being built out throughout the state of Nebraska, deputies and other first responders are able to spend more time in the communities they serve.

[Listen to the latest episode](#) of the Public Safety First podcast to hear how FirstNet is advancing communications for law enforcement in Nebraska.



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 Minnesota](#).



FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

National Coverage

[Honoring First Responders on the 20th Anniversary of 9/11](#)

The Politicians Post, September 9

[Unanimous Support for Cell Tower in Pittsylvania County](#)

Inside Towers, September 10

Revisiting FirstNet, the Public Safety Network Born from 9/11
Government Technology, September 10

Remembering 9/11: The impact, then and now
American City & County, September 10

Regional Coverage

Pittsylvania County planners greenlight cell tower in Mt. Hermon
Chatham Star Tribune, September 8

Advancing Local Emergency Response 20 Years After 9/11
Route Fifty, September 9

20 years of investment in emergency management following 9/11
Koa.com, September 12

BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET

FirstNet Authority Retweeted

 Performance.gov
@PerformanceGov

It's time to suit up! 🚒👮 @FirstNetGov Chief Network & Tech Officer @jrbratch tests out advanced firefighter #tech prototypes built on #broadband. Bringing advanced tech and capabilities to #publicsafety is what #FirstNet is designed to do: FirstNet.gov #FedFashionWeek



 FirstNet Authority
@FirstNetGov

It has been 20 years since 9/11. We will #NeverForget the sacrifice first responders made that day. They showed the world what true bravery is.

Read reflections from FirstNet Authority CEO Ed Parkinson (@EdPFirstNet): firstnet.gov/Sept11



Never Forget: Reflecting on September 11 after Twenty Years

Our mission is to oversee the FirstNet network, which was created in light of the events of 9/11 to give American first responders a reliable nationwide broadband network. We will never forget.



WATCH: Discover how [@tetonwyo_em](#) is using [@FirstNet](#) in rural [#Wyoming](#) to manage year-round weather hazards and busy tourist seasons. Emergency Manager Rich Ochs explains how the network helps him [#PrepareToProtect](#) for any emergency.

[#NationalPreparednessMonth](#) [#RuralBroadband](#)



Seismic Shifts in Coverage with FirstNet
Teton County, Wyoming experiences floods, landslides, avalanches and earthquakes. FirstNet provides responders with coverage and capabilities to respond to these disasters and everyday emergencies.



LISTEN: FirstNet Authority Board Vice Chair and [@SPFPDFireChief](#) Richard Carrizzo joined the [@IAFC](#) iCHIEFS podcast to discuss how public safety comms have evolved since 9/11. Hear how [@FirstNet](#) came to be and how the network supports responders today: blogtalkradio.com/ichiefs/2021/0...



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.

