



THE FIRSTNET AUTHORITY UPDATE | MARCH 21, 2022



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FEATURED PUBLIC SAFETY ENGAGEMENT

FirstNet Authority newsletters keep first responders in the know

Public safety innovation moves quickly. Inside the FirstNet Authority's [quarterly newsletters](#) you hear directly from subject matter experts in your public safety discipline: fire services, law enforcement, 911, EMS, and emergency management.

Our newsletters offer a dive deep into public safety broadband topics important to your discipline, as well as technology trends, the latest FirstNet news, and guidance on how to engage with the FirstNet Authority to help drive the future of FirstNet.

Check out the highlights from our most recent editions:

The Fire Service Take with Gary McCarraher: “Lessons from a wildfire case study”

Gary McCarraher gave an update on the findings of a wildfire case study conducted during the 2021 wildfire season. The study helped the FirstNet Authority understand operational challenges facing responders, identify potential solutions, and gain insights on FirstNet use during wildland fires. As part of the case study, fire personnel shared the [lessons they've learned in using public safety broadband in fighting wildfires](#).

The Law Enforcement Take with Harry Markley: “Testing mission-critical tech in the real world”

Harry Markley shared the findings of a technology trial of [FirstNet's Z-Axis capabilities](#) and Push-To-Talk services. The FirstNet Authority partnered with the Major County Sheriffs of America to conduct a trial to test the technologies in jails where communications can be challenging.

The Emergency Management Take with Bruce Fitzgerald: “How FirstNet helps mitigate disasters”

The four phases of emergency management benefit from FirstNet’s advanced communication capabilities. In past newsletters, **Bruce Fitzgerald** outlined FirstNet’s role in the emergency management phases of **preparedness**, **response**, and **recovery**. In the latest edition, he explored how FirstNet helps with mitigation in emergency management operations.

The EMS Take with Gary McCarraher: “Talking to an EMS leader about telehealth”

Gary McCarraher sat down with **Jonathan Olson** of the National EMS Management Association and the FirstNet Authority’s **Public Safety Advisory Council (PSAC)** to discuss his thoughts on telehealth and EMS, the role of technology, and what he sees for the future.

The 9-1-1 Take with John Hunt: “Putting FirstNet to the test for remote operations”

John Hunt describes how six counties from across Maryland staged a 9-1-1 expo with live call-taking from a remote and crowded location using FirstNet. Remote operations have become a necessity during the ongoing **COVID-19 pandemic**.

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SELECT UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

In-Person Events

IWCE 2022, Mar 21-24

VA Emergency Management 2022 Symposium, Mar 21-24

IAFC Wildland Urban Interface Conference, Mar 22-24

Center for Public Safety Excellence, Mar 22-25

Maine Fire Chiefs Association Annual Conference, Mar 23-25

Texas Public Safety Robotics Summit 2022, Mar 28-30

For questions about events the FirstNet Authority is attending or hosting, please email Outreach@firstnet.gov.



FIRSTNET IN ACTION



Annual Report to Congress Highlights 10 Years of Accomplishment for First Responder Network Authority

In this year's Annual Report to Congress, the FirstNet Authority celebrates its 10th anniversary.

Discover what the FirstNet Authority has accomplished over the past **ten years**.



FirstNet Authority Continues Trend of Clean Financial Audit

The FirstNet Authority received an unmodified, or clean, audit opinion on its financial statements for fiscal year 2021. This is the ninth consecutive year that the FirstNet Authority has earned a clean audit. The audit identified zero material weaknesses, zero significant deficiencies, and zero management-level control deficiencies.

Learn more about the **ninth consecutive clean financial audit**.



Seconds to respond – too long to sign on?

Public safety needs a solution that allows for a single, secure authentication process across every application needed. Logging on once should make multiple mobile applications immediately available for first responder use, allowing life-saving work to begin sooner. The FirstNet Authority is exploring how Identity, Credential, and Access Management affects public safety daily and what other solutions can help solve real-world problems.

See how [FirstNet Single Sign-On](#) can help first responders log on and get to **work faster**.



FirstNet Provides Connectivity for New York MTA Police Department

For the New York State Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department, FirstNet is a critical supplement to one of the most complex wireless radio systems in New York. FirstNet extends coverage to places in New York that historically lacked portable radio coverage, enhancing the connectivity for officers assigned to the New York City subway system and increasing interoperability with partners throughout the state.

Listen to this episode of the [Public Safety First podcast](#) to learn how FirstNet is supplementing the MTA Police Department's robust portable radio system.



The FirstNet Network Advances Public Safety Communication Capabilities

First responders nationwide benefit from FirstNet's expanded coverage, boosted capacity, and new capabilities. Rural or urban, indoor and outdoor, FirstNet solves communications challenges to help public safety serve their communities.

Read more about FirstNet's latest expansions in **Maine** and **New Hampshire**, as well as a growth summary for **South Carolina**.



FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

National Coverage

GAO report outlines FirstNet Authority reauthorization options for Congress

Urgent Communications, March 4

FirstNet, built with AT&T, collaborates with SBC to offer in-building insights at IWCE 2022

Urgent Communications, March 8

FirstNet Annual Report Highlights First 10 Years, Need for Congressional Action to Extend MissionCritical Communications, March 10

Regional Coverage

Disaster Response Training Offered for Women Drone Pilots

WHLF-FM – Lifestyle, March 8

DeKalb County Sheriff Nick Welden announces passing of communications resolution

WAFF, March 11



BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET



FirstNet Authority
@FirstNetGov

At [#IWCE2022](#), we're taking a look back at [#FirstNet10](#). Join our panel on March 23 to hear from some of the key contributors who have brought the network to life. Learn more: [agenda.iwceexpo.com/session/american...](https://agenda.iwceexpo.com/session/american-public-safety-network-at-10-years-a-firstnet-retrospective)



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The Oklahoma Electric Cooperative joins [@FirstNet](#)! [#FirstNet](#) will help [@okcoop](#) stay connected when working round-the-clock to restore operations during a disaster or other times of crisis. Read what techs had to say about FirstNet's prioritized connection: firstnet.gov/newsroom/media...



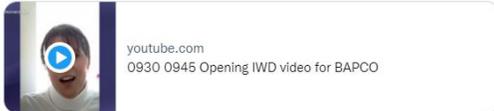
FirstNet Authority Retweeted
BAPCO Annual Conference & Exhibition
@BAPCOEvent

International Women's Day!

Watch our IWD video here: youtube.com/watch?v=nPTL_b...

We are looking to highlight the importance of increasing equality and diversity across emergency services and technology organisations.

#BAPCO22 #BreakTheBias



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HAPPENING NOW at @defensecomm National Summit — FirstNet Authority Chief of Network Management & Operations Richard Reed and @KentuckyEM Director Mike Dossett discuss disaster response, #FirstNet, and how to work together to enhance public safety.



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.

