



THE FIRSTNET AUTHORITY UPDATE | JULY 25, 2022



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FEATURED PUBLIC SAFETY ENGAGEMENT

The “Public Safety First” Podcast: What’s trending in public safety communications

The First Responder Network Authority, or FirstNet Authority, launched the “Public Safety First” podcast to discuss the future of emergency communications and learn from responders about how the network changes operations. The podcast features valuable conversations about FirstNet tools, capabilities, and advances. We interview law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, and other public safety officials and share their experiences and best practices with you.

Here’s a list of some of our recent episodes:

Introducing the Public Safety Immersive Test Center: A VR Experience

The Public Safety Immersive Test Center is a state-of-the-art facility designed to provide responders, researchers, and developers a virtual environment to develop, test, and evaluate public safety technologies. FirstNet Authority Chief Network Technology Officer **Jeff Bratcher** and Public Safety Communications Research Division Chief **Dereck Orr** discuss the launch of the Test Center and the history of partnership between the FirstNet Authority and PSCR.

Listen to this podcast about [the launch of the Test Center](#).

Discussing the Future of Public Safety Communications with FirstNet Authority Board Chair Benjamin

With decades of experience in public safety and public service, **Stephen Benjamin** understands the importance of reliable communications for first responders. Ten years after the creation of the FirstNet Authority, he reflects on the impacts of FirstNet and

shares his vision for the future of the network as Chair of the FirstNet Authority Board.

Listen to this podcast to hear from [FirstNet Authority Board Chair Steve Benjamin](#).

Women in STEM: Breaking Barriers and Innovating for Public Safety

Females are statistically underrepresented in public safety and in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) career fields. At the intersection of STEM and public safety, there are women developing innovative solutions to make first responders' jobs easier and more efficient. Working on this technology takes tenacity—but those who rise to the challenge are making an incredible difference.

Listen to this podcast to hear from [three women advancing technology](#) for public safety.

From Public Safety to Public Works, FirstNet Aids Casper, Wyoming

The Casper Police Department in Wyoming was one of the first agencies to use the FirstNet network in August 2017 when the city's population was expected to nearly double during a solar eclipse. Four years later, FirstNet is providing Casper police officers with coverage across the city, dedicated applications to enhance operations, and connectivity to other city agencies during everyday incidents and major emergencies.

Listen to this podcast to hear from [Casper Police Department officers](#).

We're excited to have you join our podcast community. Make sure to subscribe on [SoundCloud](#), [iTunes](#), or [YouTube](#).

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SELECT UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

In-Person Events

NOBLE Annual Training Conference, Orlando, Fla., July 22-27

FirstNet Update101, Agana, Guam, August 1

FirstNet Update 101, Saipan, CNMI, August 3

APCO Annual Conference, Anaheim, Calif., August 8-10

Webinars and Teleconferences

PSAC EC Teleconference, July 25

PSAC Webinar, July 26

PSAC TWG Monthly Teleconference, August 2

For questions about events the FirstNet Authority is attending or hosting, please

email: Outreach@FirstNet.gov.



FIRSTNET IN ACTION



What emergency managers need to know about FirstNet and extended primary users

Every emergency manager knows a disaster calls for all hands on deck, including the extended community of responders who help public safety in emergencies. This extended community can include utilities, transportation, and other essential services. FirstNet is available to this extended community of responders when needed. And emergency managers should know how to prepare all response partners to communicate during a disaster.

Read more about how [FirstNet serves extended primary users](#).



Celebrating a decade of impact for tribal public safety

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the legislation that created the FirstNet Authority. From our earliest days, the FirstNet Authority has collaborated with tribal leadership and organizations to better understand the needs of responders in Indian Country. We are working to expand broadband coverage into tribal communities that have historically lacked access to reliable communication services and offering advanced technologies to keep them connected.

Learn more about [FirstNet connectivity for Navajo Nation](#) and other tribal first responders.



FirstNet Network advances public safety communications capabilities

FirstNet continues to expand across the nation, bringing greater coverage, capacity, and capabilities to first responders. Rural and urban, indoor and outdoor, FirstNet solves communications challenges to help public safety serve their communities.

Read more about FirstNet's growth summary for [Texas](#), [South Dakota](#), and [Michigan](#).



FIRSTNET MOMENTUM



Agencies
21,800+



Connections
3.7+ Million



FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage

First responders in Charles get communications boost

Southern Maryland News Online, June 30

Emergency broadband service expands to New Mexico's Native American tribes

Las Cruces Sun News, July 1

National Coverage

FE Selected to Develop LMR Strategic Plan for Washington State Patrol

Mission Critical Communications, June 27

FirstNet Authority Launches Immersive Virtual Lab for Public Safety Research and Training

State Tech, June 27

NYC was ahead of its time in public safety communications

Forbes, July 6

LAPD's new FirstNet system aims to keep officers in the field, reduce paperwork

ABC-7, July 6



BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET



FirstNet Authority
@FirstNetGov

Emergency managers – curious how broadband enhances operations during disasters/planned events? Check out our EM fact sheet to learn about @FirstNet capabilities like pre-planning support, network status views, and uplift for public works and utilities firstnet.gov/system/tdf/Fir...



4:00 PM · Jul 14, 2022 · Hootsuite Inc.



FirstNet Authority
@FirstNetGov

Before Hurricane Laura made landfall, @atmosenergy identified employees critical to response. Their @FirstNet devices were uplifted so they could communicate while restoring service. Learn how FirstNet helps public works/utilities stay connected: firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/...



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What a treat to have @Tulane University professors on hand to check out the demos in our new Immersive Test Center! Learn more about how we're using VR/AR tech to advance public safety communications -> [FirstNet.gov/Lab](https://firstnet.gov/Lab)

Tulane School of Professional Advancement @TulaneSoPA · Jul 14
#TulaneSoPA Emergency and Security Studies program faculty visited @FirstNetGov and @NIST facilities in Colorado this week, and tested some of the @CommerceGov's newest #VR technology! 🧐



3:07 PM · Jul 18, 2022 · Twitter Web App



9-1-1 telecommunicators are turning to @FirstNet for remote call-taking, backup systems for CAD/call handling, cloud-based CAD solutions, and mobile communication with responders in the field. Learn about the many ways #FirstNet serves the 9-1-1 community: firstnet.gov/system/tdf/Fir...



8:00 PM · Jul 10, 2022 · Hootsuite Inc.

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.

