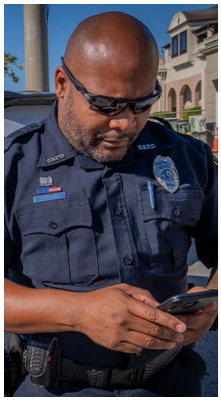
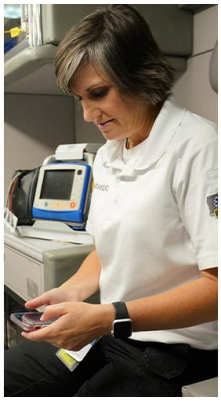
THE FIRSTNET AUTHORITY UPDATE | APRIL 17, 2023

Featured | **Engagements** | **FirstNet in Action** | **Momentum** | **News** | **Social**

FEATURED PUBLIC SAFETY ENGAGEMENT

Celebrating the dedication of our first responders

Every year, the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) recognizes first responders, volunteers, and public servants through a series of spring events, **paying tribute** to the dedication and selflessness of those working hard to keep our communities safe.

As we closed out **National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week**, FirstNet Authority CEO Joe Wassel and his colleagues from the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Assistant Secretary Alan Davidson and Deputy Assistant Secretary April Delaney joined FirstNet Authority Board member **Renee Gordon** at the City of Alexandria Emergency Communications Center. The visit was an opportunity to see how Alexandria's 9-1-1 center is modernizing its technology and, with the use of FirstNet resources, its telecommunicators can take calls outside of the

9-1-1 center when the need arises.

It was also a chance for the three leaders to **offer a personal thank you** to just a few of the emergency telecommunicators who work hard to support our communities in moments of crisis. These individuals are always on—available 24/7/365—to answer our calls. The City of Alexandria and other public safety agencies are **paving the way** for telecommunicators as they use FirstNet and other technologies in innovative ways to **move their field forward**.

Our nation's emergency telecommunicators, dispatchers, and call-takers are a lifeline between our communities and our first responders. Thank you to these courageous public servants across America. To all of you who selflessly serve as first responders to keep our nation safe — you have our gratitude today and every other day of the year.

To learn about how the FirstNet Authority works in partnership with telecommunicators, visit our page for **9-1-1/emergency communications** or reach out to **John Hunt**, 9-1-1/Emergency Communications Advisor.

Watch **Joe Wassel's message** for National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week, or find out how you can get involved in **celebrating our first responders.**

Recruitment of FirstNet Board Members

NTIA issued a Notice of Recruitment to initiate the annual process to seek interest from individuals who would like to serve on the FirstNet Authority Board. To be considered for the appointment, expressions of interest must be electronically transmitted on or by April 27.

Express your interest in **serving on the FirstNet Authority Board**.

SELECT UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

In-Person Events

California State Firefighters Association Training, April 16 – 19, Temecula, CA

FirstNet State Overview/Network Updates for Oklahoma, April 19, Oklahoma City, OK

2023 Preparedness Summit, April 23 – 27, Atlanta, GA

2023 New Jersey Public Safety Forum, April 28, Westampton, NJ

2023 ASCIA Spring Conference, April 30 – May 3, Nashville, TN

Virtual Meetings and Teleconferences

National Rural EMS & Care Conference, April 18 – 20

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

FIRSTNET IN ACTION

FirstNet Authority Board member Renee Gordon examines the intersection of FirstNet and 9-1-1

A prominent leader in the 9-1-1 community—Renee Gordon, Director of the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) in the City of Alexandria, Virginia—recently joined the FirstNet Authority Board. Renee has led some particularly innovative efforts in remote 9-1-1 operations and in regionalizing ECCs. We asked Renee about the current and future state of 9-1-1, the role of FirstNet in the ECC, and her priorities while serving on the FirstNet Authority Board.

Read about Gordon's insights and experiences **representing the 9-1-1 community**.

Integrating broadband into tribal public safety planning, preparedness

To prepare for a potential Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake, Pacific Northwest tribal groups participated in a full-scale disaster preparedness exercise called Thunderbird and Whale. This exercise simulated a 9.0 magnitude earthquake and a 100-foot tsunami to help test emergency management plans and communication capabilities during a catastrophic event. Tribal agencies relied on a FirstNet deployable and cache of devices to communicate and coordinate with public safety partners.

Learn more about the FirstNet Authority's **role in this disaster preparedness exercise**.

FIRSTNET MOMENTUM

Agencies
25,000+

Connections
4.4 Million

FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage

Missouri celebrates participation in first responder network
News Tribune, April 13

National Coverage

AT&T says it completed five-year FirstNet buildout by March 30 contractual deadline
Urgent Communications, April 5

AT&T, FirstNet celebrates 6 years, unveil super compact emergency module
FierceWireless, April 4

AT&T debuts portable emergency module for FirstNet
Mobility21, April 10

More First Responders Choose FirstNet to Reliably Communicate
Fire Apparatus & Emergency Equipment, April 4

BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET

The FirstNet 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.