



THE FIRSTNET AUTHORITY UPDATE | MAY 1, 2023



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FEATURED PUBLIC SAFETY ENGAGEMENT



Public safety's voice is key to FirstNet's future

Public safety is at the heart of the FirstNet Authority's mission. To better understand public safety's broadband communications needs, our team travels nationwide to listen to responders about how they are operating today, and what needs they see for the future.

During the first half of fiscal year 2023, the FirstNet Authority took part in 426 engagements with more than 11,000 public safety agencies and associations. Our team visited public safety on their "home turf," and, in turn, we received hundreds of recommendations and ideas to influence the network's path forward.

We were fortunate to hear straight from many of our friends and colleagues working in public safety. From participating in the **Arkansas** Emergency Management Association Conference or the **California** Fire Chief's Association Tech Summits, to hearing directly from the **Massachusetts** Chiefs of Police Association or the Midwest Association of **Sovereign Tribes**, engagements like these are crucial to the ongoing success of the network.

With **new CEO Joe Wassel** at the helm of the FirstNet Authority, our team is gearing up for the months ahead to ensure that public safety's voice remains central to improving and innovating FirstNet.

Don't forget that in every edition of this newsletter we share a list of local, regional, and national events we plan to attend. We hope to see you at the next event!

SELECT UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

In-Person Events

New York State 9-1-1 Coordinators Association 2023 Spring Conference, May 1 – 4, Kingston, N.Y.

FirstNet Authority Combined Board and Committee Meetings, May 2 – 3, Broomfield, Colo.

Law Enforcement and Public Safety (LEAPS) Technology Forum, May 10, Washington, D.C.

SAFECOM Meeting, May 10, Pasadena, Calif.

Colorado APCO/NENA 2023 State Conference, May 10, Loveland, Colo.

IAFC Community Risk Reduction Conference, May 9 – 11, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Virtual Meetings and Teleconferences

Monthly Tribal Working Group Teleconference, May 2

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

FIRSTNET IN ACTION



When law enforcement needs help – elevating extended primary users on FirstNet

Law enforcement officers are among the most important users of the FirstNet network, along with other primary public safety entities like EMS, fire services, 9-1-1, and emergency management. When help is needed from the wider community, public safety can temporarily give other subscribing organizations elevated access to the network. This keeps everyone connected and communicating when it matters most.

Learn more about the [role extended primary users play in public safety](#) response.



As 3GPP Release 18 advances, planning starts for Release 19

The Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) Plenary e-meetings concluded in March. The meetings focused on the feature progress and schedule for Release 18 (R18) and included the initial discussions of Release 19 (R19) planning. The remaining stage 2 architectural work in R18 is advancing and is expected to be complete in June 2023, as scheduled, allowing the R18 stage 3 protocol work to proceed.

Find out what the **future has in store for 3GPP** as the initial discussions for Release 19 begin.

FIRSTNET MOMENTUM



Agencies
25,000+



Connections
4.7 Million

FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS

Regional Coverage

Cell phone company creates more towers to help first responders

KEVN Black Hills Fox, April 21

National Coverage

AT&T says FirstNet has about 4.7 million connections, 25,000 agencies

Urgent Communications, April 21

AT&T touts 'consistent...profitable' growth in 5G, fiber

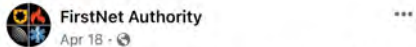
RCR Wireless News, April 20

AT&T launches medical radar device that monitors older adults through walls

The Verge, April 17

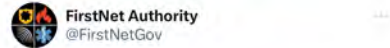
BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET





SAVE THE DATE: The next FirstNet Authority Board meeting is scheduled for May 3 at 8:30 a.m. MT in Boulder, Colorado. Tune in to get the latest on what we've been up to this year and what's in store in the coming months.

Details: <https://firstnet.gov/newsroom/events/firstnet-authority-combined-board-and-board-committees-meeting-may-2023>



In honor of #NationalVolunteerWeek, we want to express our deepest appreciation to all the volunteers making our world a better place. Hear from Tanner Locke, President of the Shade Gap Volunteer Fire Department, about his experience and commitment as a volunteer firefighter.



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.

