First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOC) – May 15, 2017

FirstNet News

- Leadership and staff from FirstNet and AT&T look forward to gathering with SPOCs and their teams for the State Plans Kickoff Meeting on June 7th and 8th in Texas at the Intercontinental Dallas. If you have not already done so, please register here. The draft meeting agenda has been updated on the registration website.

- Last week, FirstNet staff participated in a panel discussion at the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Technology Forum, hosted by the Bethesda Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) in Washington, DC. The discussion focused on how Smart Cities technology will continue to enhance first response.

- FirstNet also had a booth at the EMS Administrators’ Association of California Conference in San Diego, where staff had productive conversations with influential state EMS leaders.

- FirstNet also attended the New York State 9-1-1 Coordinators’ Association Spring Conference in Oswego to support the New York SPOC Team as they provided a FirstNet Presentation and engaged in a valuable dialogue with attendees.

- FirstNet attended the Tribal Law Enforcement Executive Symposium (TLEES) in Warm Springs, Oregon. The conference focused on the work among and across all levels of government.

- This week, FirstNet will be participating in a Spring New Mexico Exchange Carrier Group meeting in Mescalero; the Texas Emergency Management Conference in San Antonio; the APCO Annual Public Safety Broadband Summit in Washington, DC; a Connecticut Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee meeting in Middletown; the Boston Fire Department Technology Roundtable and Mullane Symposium in Massachusetts; the Public Sector Innovation Summit in Arlington, Virginia; a Virginia Statewide Agencies Radio System (STARS) leadership meeting in Richmond; a Federal Communications Bar Association Continuing Legal Education seminar in Washington, DC; a FirstNet Colorado Governing Body meeting in Denver; a Connecticut Public Safety Broadband Working Group meeting in Middletown; IAFC’s Fire Rescue Med conference in Henderson, Nevada; and the IACP Communications and Technology Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri.
• Last week, FirstNet posted three new blogs: FirstNet Honors Law Enforcement During Police Week, FirstNet’s Nationwide Network: Becoming a Reality for America’s First Responders, and National Hurricane Preparedness Week 2017.

• The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is seeking expressions of interest from individuals who wish to serve on the FirstNet Board. One of the 12 nonpermanent Board member seats is currently vacant, and the appointments of four current nonpermanent Board members expire this August. The Federal Register Notice may be found here. Expressions of interest are due May 22.

News from the PSAC, States and Territories

• The summer 2017 in-person PSAC meeting will be Thursday, June 15th, 2017, in San Antonio, Texas, after the conclusion of the PSCR annual conference. PSAC members are asked to reference instructions to book invitational travel as outlined via email, and send any questions to PSAC@firstnet.gov.

• The summer 2017 in-person Tribal Working Group meeting will be Monday, July 24th, in Flagstaff, Arizona, one day in advance of the field session of the Tribal-Interior Budget Council (TIBC) to be held July 25th-27th. Instructions for making invitational travel arrangements are forthcoming.

Media Watch

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FedScoop 5/10: Are We There Yet? How close is the U.S. to a modern, interoperable public safety network?


The nation is on the brink of launching an interoperable and modern national public safety network, a group of private and public tech thought leaders said Tuesday – but there’s still work to be done. With the award of the First Responder Network Authority contract to AT&T earlier this spring, the framework to build a 21st century digital communications network for police, fire departments and other agencies is in place, panelists said Tuesday at AFCEA Bethesda’s Law Enforcement IT Day 2017.

FierceWireless 5/8: Transit Wireless will be ready to accommodate 600 MHz, FirstNet in New York City subway system

Transit Wireless, the company charged with installing shared wireless infrastructure within hundreds of underground stations of the New York City subway, is preparing to not only accommodate carriers that won spectrum in the 600 MHz auction, but also to support FirstNet when that initiative is ready for it.

**RCRWireless 5/8: What does a public safety user interface of the future need?**


As work begins on the contract for a new, nationwide LTE network for public safety that was recently awarded to AT&T, the Public Safety Communications Research Division continues its effort to lay out the current and future needs of public safety communications in order to focus research efforts.

**Web and Social Media**

FirstNet’s social media presence grew at its normal rate this week. Twitter gained 45 new followers, now at 6,144. Facebook has 1,120 followers. LinkedIn now has 2,361 followers. YouTube has 442 subscribers.