FirstNet™ Law Enforcement Update

Law Enforcement Comes Together for Winter Meetings

In February there were sequential winter legislative meetings of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), and Major County Sheriffs' Association (MCSA), bringing together the nation's law enforcement leaders for this annual event in Washington, D.C. Members of the FirstNet leadership had the opportunity to participate in events throughout the week to continue the dialogue with public safety about the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network and stress the value of law enforcement's continued involvement in the design and implementation of the network.

In an interview with Sheriff Stanek he expressed continued support saying the "excitement is building" for FirstNet throughout the law enforcement community. "We are going to have a nationwide, interoperable broadband system that will provide exactly what my deputies need who are out on the road every day," he said.

To learn more visit FirstNet.gov and the FirstNet YouTube channel.

National Software Database Used in Investigations Now Includes Mobile Apps

The national database of software "fingerprints" used in police investigations is expanding to include mobile applications. The National Institute of Standards and Technology just updated what already was the largest public collection of software in the world with 23,000 mobile apps. Read more about the database from NIST.

FirstNet-APCO Collaborate on Applications

FirstNet's applications group, based in Boulder, Colorado, has been working with the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International to foster emerging applications for public safety. Participants in APCO's third technology workshop called for developers to create a tool for testing new apps for interoperability and cybersecurity on FirstNet's network.

"The excitement surrounding FirstNet is not only in its broadband capabilities, which will be a game-changer, but also in the competition for public safety apps that we expect it to spark," FirstNet Chief Technology Officer Jeff Bratcher said. "If FirstNet can help foster that kind of technical innovation, we will open up a new world in which first responders are more prepared, safer, and in better positions to serve the public based on the apps they will be able to access." Read more on APCO's TabletopX Blog.

2017 State Plans Consultation

The new year brings a new phase for FirstNet's Chief Customer Office (CCO), which has been focused on building relationships at the state, tribal, federal and local levels to hear about the technical and operational needs of public safety. "State Single Points of Contacts and public safety leaders have been heavily involved in learning more about consultation with FirstNet in their states," said FirstNet Board Vice Chairman Jeff Johnson.

Following the contract award by FirstNet for the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN), FirstNet and its partner will work to deliver individual State Plans detailing the proposed network deployment. Once delivered, the governor will have 90 days to make a decision regarding the Radio Access Network (RAN) deployment.

"We want to take the plans as we've designed them, along with what the partner has proposed, and present those to the states," he continued. "The consultation around that is going to be ahead of it, during, and after."

(See more on FirstNet's website, "Key Factors for Governor Decision")

When states and territories receive their customized State Plans in 2017, FirstNet will continue to work with the SPOCs to prepare them for the governors' decisions. States are encouraged to stay updated on the latest FirstNet news and deployment plans by visiting FirstNet.gov and FirstNet's YouTube channel to watch tutorials on FirstNet State Plans key considerations.

Commerce Agency Offers $30 Million in Grants for First Responder Innovations

The National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Public Safety Communications Research Division (PSCR) has announced a [$30 million grant funding opportunity](#) known as the Public Safety Innovation Accelerator Program.

According to the [funding opportunity announcement](#), eligible applicants include institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, for-profit organizations, state and local governments, Indian tribes, hospitals, foreign public entities, and foreign governments. Applications must be submitted to [Grants.gov](#) by Feb. 28.

Technology Talk: FirstNet - Delivering 21st Century Tools to Law Enforcement

IACP passed a resolution in December demonstrating its strong continued support for FirstNet and the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network.

As broadband technologies evolve, law enforcement continues to break new ground. Advancements include the capability to remotely upload citations using mobile devices in the field, patrol cars operating as field offices to meet the data needs of the modern officer, and body-worn cameras. Every minute of an officer's day might involve technology.

However, even if agencies have implemented these developments, they often find themselves sharing the Internet with more than 286 million other users in the United States. This enormous number of users can create a bandwidth crunch that slows Internet speeds, particularly during emergencies when officers most rely on fast-speed Internet and flawless communication capabilities. FirstNet's purpose is to relieve these issue.

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New Jersey, California Police Move to Cloud Computing

A growing number of law enforcement departments are using cloud computing to manage their crime data bases. The Camden County, New Jersey, police department has joined Jersey City, New Jersey, and six police departments in Los Angeles County, California, in using a cloud-based data-management system. Cloud computing uses a network of remote servers, rather than local servers, to store, manage and process data remotely. Some say they will use a related dispatch system this year. Read more in [Government Technology](#).

The Latest in Emergency Services Apps

Emergency services nationwide are benefitting from innovative technical applications. These applications require the kind of high-speed and prioritized digital broadband that FirstNet is creating. Prioritized broadband becomes even more important for emergency services as applications become ubiquitous. Here are a few of the latest apps:

- The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is the latest to use unmanned drones to help officers on the ground. The Federal Aviation Administration approved the department's request to use drones in specific incidents, including search and rescue, explosives detection, HAZMAT incidents, disaster response and with barricaded and armed suspects. Some 300 law enforcement departments nationwide have been approved to use drones. Read more here from [Southern California Public Radio](#).

- The Hampton, Virginia, Sheriff's Department in December unveiled a free, mobile app for residents to gain information about the department. The app gives a wide range of information including that on inmates, charges, court dates, bond status, and volunteer opportunities and job openings. Read more from the [Newport News (VA) Daily Press](#).

- Washington state's Yakima and Kittitas counties are remotely accessing school security and utilities such as water and gas through a central office with the help of a mobile app that notifies them of emergencies. Read more from the [Yakima Herald-Republic](#).

Some Events FirstNet Will Attend

Event	Date
Police Jury Association of Louisiana 93rd Annual Convention	2/15/17
APCO Emerging Technology Forum	2/28/17
Western States Sheriffs' Association Conference	3/3/17
International Wireless Communications Expo	3/27/17

Social Media

YouTube https://www.youtube.com/user/FirstNetGov

tumblr https://firstnetgov.tumblr.com/

LinkedIn https://www.linkedin.com/company/first-responder-network-authority-firstnet-

flickr https://www.flickr.com/photos/firstnetgov/albums

Twitter https://twitter.com/FirstNetGov

Google+ https://plus.google.com/+FirstnetGov

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