



ON MY MIND

As the nation's first broadband network dedicated to public safety, implementing emerging technology into the FirstNet network is vitally important to our mission. The FirstNet Innovation and Test Lab in Boulder is continuously looking for new ways to equip our first responders with the most advanced tools to do their jobs, ultimately keeping them and our communities safer. Some of the most exciting and cutting-edge technology being used in the law enforcement field today are wearables devices and sensors.

Harry Markley With smart watches, body-worn cameras and armor now a staple in the public safety marketplace, wearable technologies enhance situational awareness more than ever before for officers responding to an incident. Any officer will tell you that technology use is only as good as the connection it runs over. With FirstNet's "always on" broadband connection, wearable and sensor technology can be relied upon to transmit real-time data from these devices to incident commanders, supervising officers and dispatch centers, during times of distress or everyday incident response.

Even though these tools offer great promise, the First Responder Network Authority continues to seek solutions that address technological challenges for on-duty officers, such as aggregating data from wearables and sensors or making sure officers have access to the right information at the right time. For example, we are working closely with the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) Tech to Protect Challenge, a coding challenge that allows the public safety community to join forces and resolve issues in technology that first responders might encounter. To learn more about this challenge, check out the [Tech to Protect](#) web page.

We look forward to our continued work with law enforcement and other public safety disciplines in 2019. Keep in touch, and I will continue to update you on all of FirstNet's news and developments.

Harry Markley is Senior Public Safety Advisor and the First Responder Network Authority Law Enforcement Subject Matter Expert

WHAT'S NEW AT FIRSTNET

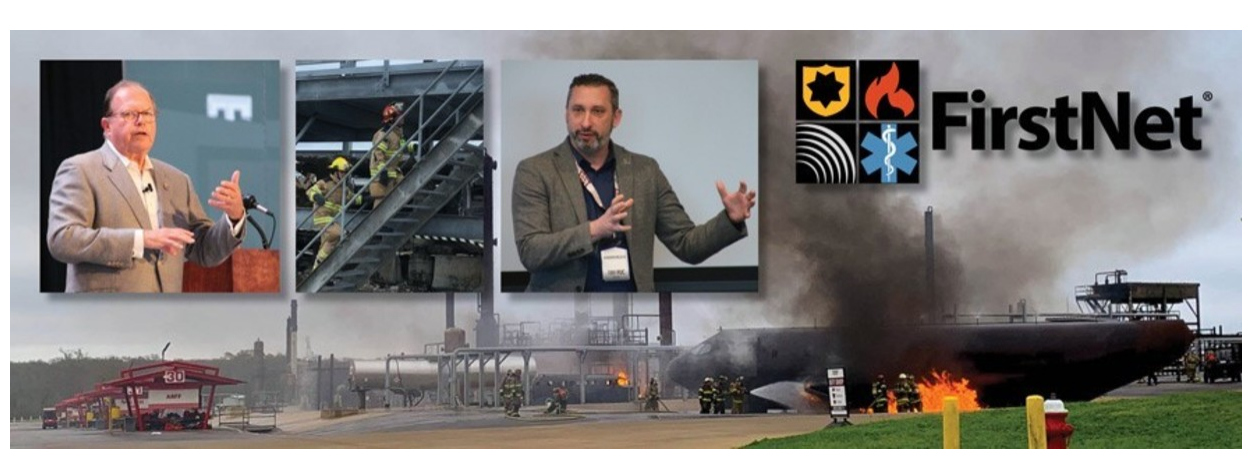
FirstNet improves network coverage for first responders in Baltimore County, MD

On March 5, Baltimore County, MD, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate its first FirstNet cell site. The site is in a high-traffic area that public safety officials identified as a critical location for mission-critical network capacity.



Maryland Congressman **Dutch Ruppersberger** said, "I supported the legislation behind FirstNet, recognizing the need for and benefits of a dedicated, nationwide broadband network for public safety. And I'm pleased to see the early benefits that FirstNet is already bringing to Maryland's first responders as it paves the way for new capabilities and innovations in the way public safety handles emergencies and serves our communities." [Learn more.](#)

FirstNet Public Safety Innovation Day gathers Roadmap input from leaders



As part of our Roadmap engagement program, the First Responder Network Authority held a Public Safety Innovation Day on March 6 in College Station, TX. The event brought together thought leaders from the field of EMS and other public safety disciplines to discuss emerging technologies and exchange useful feedback.

FirstNet Board Chair **Edward Horowitz** said in his event keynote, "FirstNet is not a technology, it is a strategic asset that communities can use to become safer and achieve a higher quality of life for their residents."

[Learn more](#) about the event; also read about Roadmap engagements in [Virginia](#), [Arizona](#) and [Michigan](#).

FirstNet App Catalog Spotlight: New badges and webinars

The FirstNet App Catalog adds new apps frequently to help law enforcement and other public safety users.

Every app in the FirstNet App Catalog has been inspected to 1) verify the app is directly relevant to the needs of first responders, 2) be highly confident the app is secure and protects data, and 3) demonstrate a history of limited unplanned outages with three 9's (99.9 percent) availability. An app that meets those criteria is approved to be FirstNet Listed, and can use the new FirstNet App Catalog badge.

App providers who apply for and meet the higher criteria for FirstNet Certified may use the FirstNet Certified badge. FirstNet Certified apps have shown their ability to limit unplanned outages with four 9's (99.99 percent) availability and meet the additional criteria of resiliency, scalability, and optimized use of mobility resources.



Check out FirstNet App Webinars: Register for the next FirstNet App webinar on **May 16, 1:30 - 3 p.m. ET.** Hosted by AT&T and featuring app providers for FirstNet, the webinar will discuss the ways agencies can enable persistence services and enable, set, and enforce security and data-protection policies.

[Learn more/register](#)

WORTH A LOOK/LISTEN

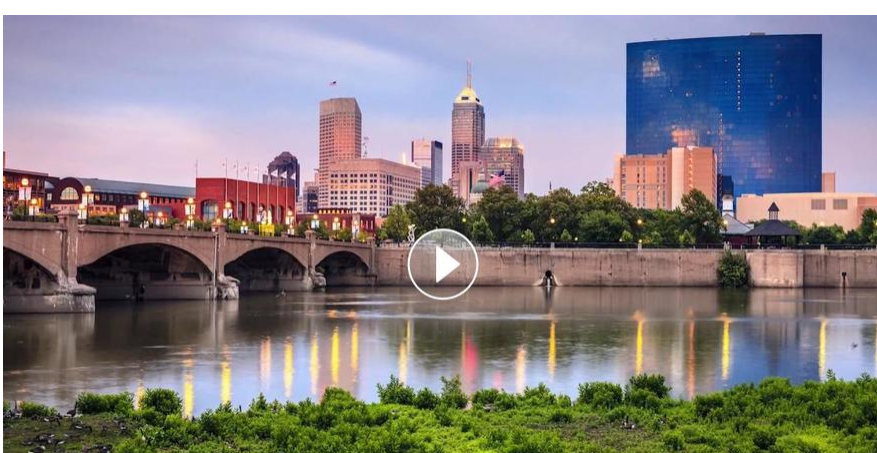
Video news clip: Elmore County (ID) joins new first responder communication network

I was honored to contribute to a KTVB/Channel 7 news story with Elmore County, ID, Sheriff **Mike Hollinshead** about Elmore's adoption of FirstNet. At just over 3,000 square miles, Elmore County is one of the largest counties in Idaho, but also one of the most remote, meaning radio and wireless communication have sometimes been a struggle. [Read the story and see the video.](#)



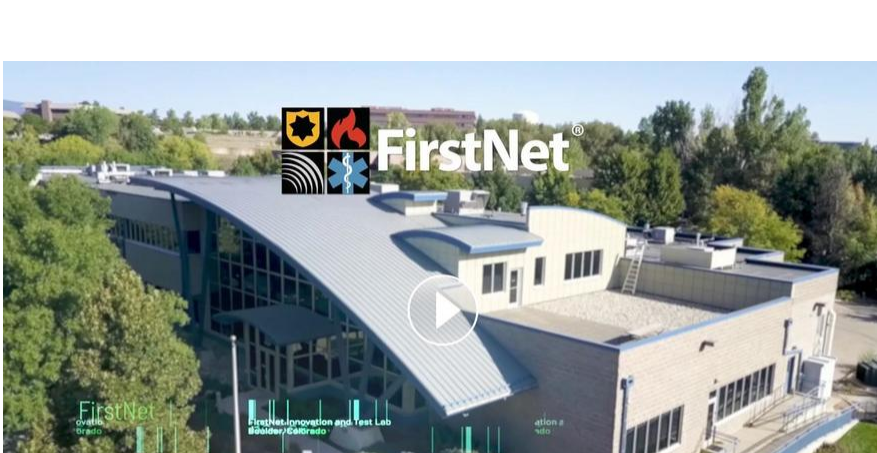
Video: FirstNet in Action - Speeding Public Safety Broadband Across Indiana

In the below video, Indiana Integrated Public Safety Commission's **Tyler Clements** shares how FirstNet's capabilities and application ecosystem are enabling first responders to communicate statewide since Indiana joined the network in 2017.



Video: FirstNet Lab set to expand the future of public safety communications

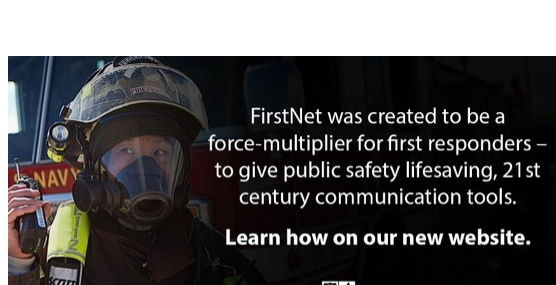
In this video tour of the FirstNet Innovation and Test Lab, **Michael Van Zuiden**, Senior Director for the Lab, walks through the state-of-the-art facility to explain the Lab's pivotal work supporting public safety. The Lab operates as a plug-and-play environment for the FirstNet Authority team to test the standards based mission critical functions and features of the FirstNet network.



Check out the updated FirstNet.gov

We recently updated our [FirstNet.gov](#) website, making it easier to learn more about FirstNet and the First Responder Network Authority. Here are some pages you may find particularly useful:

- [Law Enforcement page](#)
- [Public Safety First podcast page](#)
- [FirstNet.gov blog \(latest news\)](#)



LET'S CATCH UP

In the coming months, the First Responder Network Authority will be on the road connecting with law enforcement and other public safety agencies across the county. I'll be at the [2019 IACP Technology Conference](#) May 20-22 in Jacksonville, FL. If you plan to be there, please let me know so we can catch up.

As your Law Enforcement Senior Advisor, you can always contact me with any questions about FirstNet, or if you'd like to schedule a Roadmap engagement or meeting with us. I'm at harry.markley@firstnet.gov.

[FirstNet.gov](#)



Share this email:

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA | 20192 United States

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

