



# FirstNet™



## Public Safety Advisory Committee

### WHAT IS THE FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY (FIRSTNET)?

Signed into law on February 22, 2012, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act created the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). The law gives FirstNet the mission to build, operate and maintain the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. FirstNet will provide a single interoperable platform for emergency and daily public safety data communications.

FirstNet is an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration. FirstNet is governed by a 15-member Board consisting of the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and 12 members appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The FirstNet Board is composed of representatives from public safety; local, state and federal government; and the wireless industry.<sup>1</sup>

### WHAT IS THE PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PSAC)?

Consistent with requisites of the statute, FirstNet was required to establish a Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). FirstNet established the PSAC consisting of 40 members who represent public safety organizations<sup>2</sup> from all disciplines of public safety as well as State, territorial, tribal, and local governments. There are also at-large members and a Federal member. The mission of the PSAC is to assist FirstNet in carrying out its duties and responsibilities. Specifically, the PSAC:

- Offers FirstNet guidance, information, and subject matter expertise, from a public safety perspective, to ensure that needs, requirements, and operational constructs necessary for critical public safety capabilities are included in the envisioned network
- Provides subject matter expertise on concepts (e.g., policies, procedures, technologies, operational methods) developed by FirstNet
- Advises FirstNet through creating concept documents or recommendation reports related to the build out, deployment, and operation of a nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN)
- Conducts regular meetings to remain informed and up to date on FirstNet's progress

<sup>1</sup>For additional information on FirstNet, see The Promise of FirstNet Fact Sheet and The Process for Working with FirstNet Fact Sheet

<sup>2</sup>PSAC webpage: <http://firstnet.gov/about/public-safety-advisory-committee>

## WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A PSAC MEMBER?

PSAC members represent key stakeholder groups. PSAC members serve on a voluntary basis and may be asked to participate in subcommittees and working groups to contribute to concept documents and recommendation reports based on their experience and expertise. Participation in the PSAC is critical to assist FirstNet with the establishment of the NPSBN. PSAC members are expected to attend meetings that are held virtually (e.g., teleconference, webinar) and in person meetings two or three times a year. Members are expected to keep their stakeholder groups informed and updated on PSAC activities that help to address the need to develop better technologies and processes for the multi-jurisdictional and cross-disciplinary coordination of existing systems and future networks.

## WHAT ARE THE CURRENT PSAC EFFORTS?

Participation as subject matter experts on subcommittees and working groups will be topic specific and will continue until final reports or recommendations are accepted for presentation to FirstNet by the PSAC Executive Committee. Current ongoing efforts include:

- **Human Factors:** PSAC was asked by FirstNet to analyze the long range impacts of the NPSBN on the manner law enforcement, fire, EMS, and public safety communications centers operate and how they may be better served in addressing their duties once the network is built and operating. This task looks to answer several questions including:
  - What are the human elements and ergonomic factors that FirstNet needs to consider when designing the network and defining capabilities of user applications and devices?
  - What are potential user issues that will arise when using the NPSBN?
  - How will the NPSBN be used by first responders and how will it impact operations and the delivery of critical public safety services?

The FirstNet Board passed a [resolution](#) to accept the [report](#) on March 11, 2014.

- **Application / Use Cases:** The PSAC is developing use cases to illustrate how the envisioned technology, network, and applications will support the incident response by discipline (e.g., emergency medical services, fire, law enforcement)
- **Eligible Users:** The PSAC was asked by FirstNet to develop a list of eligible users of the NPSBN and definitions.
- **Tribal Outreach, Education, and Consultation Strategies:** FirstNet requested the PSAC establish a Tribal Working Group to provide FirstNet advice on tribal outreach, education, and inclusive consultation strategies to ensure full participation by tribal jurisdictions in the NPSBN.
- **Early Builder Strategies and Lessons Learned:** FirstNet requested the PSAC establish an Early Builder Working Group comprised of Adams County, Colorado; Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS), California; Harris County, Texas; New Mexico and New Jersey to provide FirstNet with early builder strategies and lessons learned that will assist in planning efforts for the NPSBN.

For questions on the PSAC and its activities, please contact [PSAC@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:PSAC@hq.dhs.gov).

## FirstNet Board

Chair Sue Swenson  
 Secretary of Homeland Security, U.S. Attorney General  
 Director of the Office of Management & Budget, Barry Boniface, Tim Bryan,  
 Charles Dowd, Craig Farrill, Paul Fitzgerald, Sam Ginn, Jeff Johnson,  
 Kevin McGinnis, Ed Reynolds, Teri Takai, Wellington Webb

06/03/2014

**FirstNet Staff**  
 Deputy General Manager  
 TJ Kennedy

### PSAC Executive Committee

PSAC Chair Harlin McEwen (Police-IACP)  
 PSAC Vice-Chair Bill McCammon (Fire-Metro Chiefs)  
 PSAC Vice-Chair Paul Patrick (EMS-NAEMSO)  
 PSAC Vice-Chair Thomas MacLellan (State-NGA)  
 PSAC Vice-Chair Tom Sorley (Local-USCM)

**Public Safety Advisory Committee**  
 (40 Members)

### State, Territorial, Tribal and Local Subcommittee

NGA ..... Chair Thomas MacLellan  
 USCM ..... Vice-Chair Tom Sorley  
 GHSAC ..... Jimmy Gianato  
 IAEM ..... Joseph R. Sastre  
 ICMA ..... Mark Ryckman  
 NACO ..... Timothy Loewenstein  
 NARC ..... Steve Cassano  
 NASCIO ..... Darryl Ackley  
 NASTD ..... Charlie Sasser  
 NATOA ..... Barry Fraser  
 NCAI ..... Richard D. Broncheau  
 NCSWIC ..... Michael Varney  
 NCSL ..... Daniel Eaton  
 NEMA ..... Ken Mallette  
 NLC ..... Scott Somers

### Tribal Working Group (Under Formation)

EC Liaison Thomas MacLellan  
 Chair Richard D. Broncheau  
 Vice Chair  
 Members

### Early Builder Working Group (Under Formation)

EC Liaison Tom Sorley  
 Adams County (CO)  
 Los Angeles-Rics (CA)  
 New Mexico (NM)  
 New Jersey (NJ)  
 Texas (TX)

### Federal Work Group\*

ECPC  
 Emergency Communications  
 Preparedness Center

Chair Suzanne Spaulding (DHS)  
 PSAC Liaison Harlin McEwen  
 Agriculture Department  
 Commerce Department  
 Defense Department  
 Energy Department  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 General Services Administration  
 Health and Human Services Department  
 Interior Department  
 Justice Department  
 Labor Department  
 State Department  
 Transportation Department  
 Treasury Department

\*The FirstNet Board has designated the ECPC as the Federal Coordinating Group to advise FirstNet on Federal user issues.



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### PSAC Executive Committee

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06/03/2014

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|-----|------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1.  | AASHTO .....     | American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials .....    | Paul J. Steinman         |
| 2.  | APCO .....       | Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International ..... | Terry Hall               |
| 3.  | APWA .....       | American Public Works Association.....                                    | Philip R. Mann           |
| 4.  | FCCA.....        | Forestry Conservation Communications Association.....                     | Chief Paul M. Leary      |
| 5.  | GHSAC .....      | Governors Homeland Security Advisors Council .....                        | Jimmy J. Gianato         |
| 6.  | IAB .....        | Interagency Board .....   | Lt. Christopher Lombard  |
| 7.  | IACP .....       | International Association of Chiefs of Police.....                        | Chief Harlin McEwen      |
| 8.  | IAEM.....        | International Association of Emergency Managers.....                      | Joseph R. Sastre         |
| 9.  | IAFC .....       | International Association of Fire Chiefs .....                            | Chief Gary McCarraher    |
| 10. | ICMA.....        | International City/County Management Association .....                    | Mark L. Ryckman          |
| 11. | IMSA.....        | International Municipal Signal Association .....                          | Paul Szoc                |
| 12. | MCC.....         | Major Cities (Police) Chiefs Association .....                            | Pat Neville              |
| 13. | MCSA.....        | Major County Sheriffs' Association .....                                  | Mel Maier                |
| 14. | Metro Chiefs.... | Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association .....                                | Chief Bill McCammon      |
| 15. | NACo .....       | National Association of Counties .....                                    | Timothy Loewenstein      |
| 16. | NAEMT .....      | National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians .....               | Don Lundy                |
| 17. | NARC .....       | National Association of Regional Councils.....                            | Steve Cassano            |
| 18. | NASCIO.....      | National Association of State Chief Information Officers.....             | Darryl Ackley            |
| 19. | NAEMSO .....     | National Association of State EMS Officials .....                         | Paul R. Patrick          |
| 20. | NASNA .....      | National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators.....                   | Richard Taylor           |
| 21. | NASTD .....      | National Association of State Technology Directors.....                   | Charlie Sasser           |
| 22. | NATOA .....      | National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors .....    | Barry Fraser             |
| 23. | NCAI .....       | National Congress of American Indians.....                                | Richard D. Broncheau     |
| 24. | NCJA.....        | National Criminal Justice Association .....                               | John M. Sweeney          |
| 25. | NCSL.....        | National Conference of State Legislatures .....                           | Daniel A. Eaton          |
| 26. | NCSWIC .....     | National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators.....          | Michael Varney           |
| 27. | NEMA .....       | National Emergency Management Association.....                            | Ken Mallette             |
| 28. | NEMSMA.....      | National EMS Management Association .....                                 | Jonathan Olson           |
| 29. | NENA .....       | National Emergency Number Association .....                               | Trey Forgety             |
| 30. | NGA .....        | National Governors Association.....                                       | Thomas MacLellan         |
| 31. | NLC .....        | National League of Cities .....   | Scott Somers             |
| 32. | NPSTC.....       | National Public Safety Telecommunications Council .....                   | Chief Douglas Aiken      |
| 33. | NSA .....        | National Sheriffs' Association.....                                       | Sheriff Larry D. Amerson |
| 34. | SEARCH.....      | National Consortium of Justice Information Statistics.....                | Bonnie B. Maney          |
| 35. | USCM.....        | U.S. Conference of Mayors.....  | Tom Sorley               |
| 36. | At Large .....   | SAFECOM EC.....   | Steven H. Proctor        |
| 37. | At Large .....   | Fire Non-Management First Line Responder.....                             | Mike Worrell             |
| 38. | At Large .....   | Police Non-Management First Line Responder .....                          | Rory Neslund             |
| 39. | At Large .....   | Police Non-Management First Line Responder .....                          | James N. Mann            |
| 40. | Federal.....     | FirstNet .....  | Vicki Lee                |