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## PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCACY UPDATE | SEPTEMBER 8, 2020



[Featured Activities](#) | [FirstNet in Action](#) | [FirstNet in the News](#) | [Social](#)

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## FEATURED ADVOCACY ACTIVITY

### The FirstNet Authority Connects with Public Safety in the Aloha State

Last week, The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) and the State of Hawaii hosted a webinar focused on Push-to-Talk (PTT) and LMR-LTE interconnection. Public safety entities from across the state joined the virtual event to hear updates on the

FirstNet network, products and solutions, and first-hand experiences from first responders operating over the network.

The webinar opened with welcoming remarks given by **Kenison Tejada**, FirstNet Authority Senior Public Safety Advisor. Kenison updated the audience about the FirstNet Network's latest developments and future plans. He also emphasized the FirstNet Authority's continued efforts to gather important and meaningful input from stakeholders to enhance FirstNet and meet public safety's operational needs. AT&T representatives were also on hand to discuss the progress of FirstNet PTT, voice and data capabilities, and LMR-LTE interconnection solutions.

**David Faulkner** from the FirstNet Authority also shared his experience working with the Arizona Department of Public Safety to improve coverage in remote areas across the state. During an 18-month pilot program, AT&T provided FirstNet devices loaded with enhanced-PTT to eight state troopers covering a large area in northeast Arizona. By leveraging the existing LRM-LTE footprint, the FirstNet network enhanced coverage and capacity in rural Arizona, and provided an additional benefit of serving as a backup to its existing system.

Kenison reminded participants to contact the FirstNet Authority to arrange additional educational opportunities specific to Hawaii. He also thanked the State of Hawaii for jointly hosting the forum with the FirstNet Authority and looks forward to continued collaboration with the state's public safety stakeholders to meet their emergency communication needs.



## **Chief Harlin R. McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award**

Did you know someone who has made a difference in the public safety communications field? Nominate them by September 30 for the **First Responder Network Authority Chief Harlin R. McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communication Award**. Learn [more](#) or [submit your nomination](#).



### **Chief Richard Carrizzo Named Vice Chair of the FirstNet Authority Board**

FirstNet Authority Board Chair Tip Osterthaler has named **Chief Richard Carrizzo** to be Vice Chair of the FirstNet Authority Board. Chief Carrizzo is Fire Chief for the Southern Platte Fire Protection District in Missouri and has been on the FirstNet Authority Board since 2018, serving on the Public Safety Advocacy and Network and Technology Committees.



### **Start a Conversation with the FirstNet Authority Team at the World Trauma Symposium Virtual Booth**

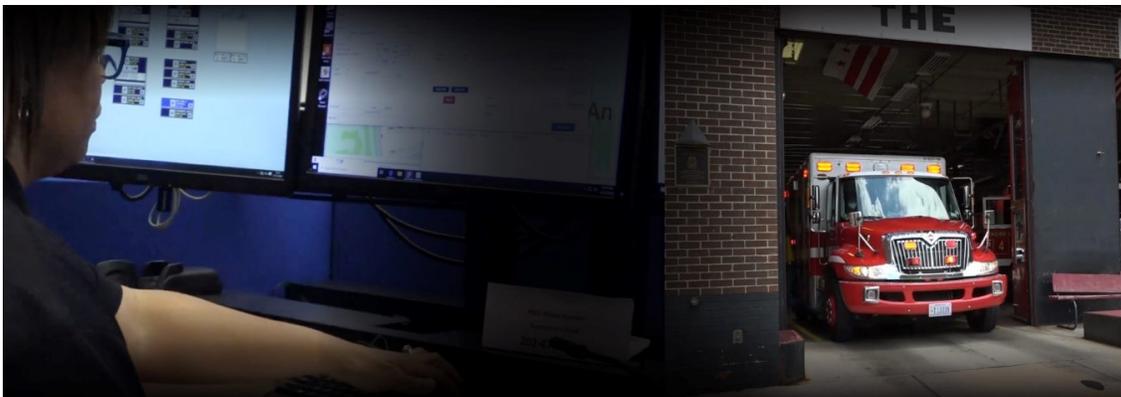
The FirstNet Authority is excited to participate in the **National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians' World Trauma Symposium virtual conference**. FirstNet Authority staff will host a virtual booth to share information and answer questions about how FirstNet supports emergency medical services.



## FirstNet Cell Site Launches in New England to Support Public Safety

**Easton, Connecticut** and **Stonington, Maine** first responders got a major boost in their wireless communications with the addition of new, purpose-built cell sites. The sites are part of the FirstNet network expansion taking place across the country, which is bringing increased coverage, capacity, and capability to first responders.

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## FirstNet: Keeping a DC Call Center Connected During the Pandemic

The **Office of Unified Communications (OUC)** in Washington D.C. is responsible for 9-1-1 and 3-1-1 calls in the nation's capital, as well as dispatch services and radio communications for D.C. first responders. The OUC handles nearly 3.5 million emergency and non-emergency calls each year. When the pandemic hit, the OUC turned to FirstNet MiFis to support remote telework for 3-1-1 and non-emergency 9-1-1 call takers, keeping staff safe while answering the call for D.C. residents and visitors.

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## **FirstNet One Elevates Public Safety Communications Following Hurricane Laura**

**FirstNet One** – an approximately 55-foot aerostat in the FirstNet dedicated fleet – took to the sky to provide first responders with the expanded coverage after widespread damage from Hurricane Laura. This first-of-its-kind solution ensures first responders have the connectivity that is crucial to their restoring their communities. The blimp is near Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

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## **FIRSTNET IN THE NEWS**

### *Regional Coverage*

#### **Strong Storm Response in Branford and North Branford**

Zip06, August 31

#### **AT&T bringing extra generators, equipment as Hurricane Laura takes aim**

CW39 Houston, August 25

#### **New Tech Helps Tennessee Guard with Domestic Operations**

TN.gov, August 20

#### **AT&T Announces Enhanced Service in Western Pa.**

KITV4, August 24

### *National Coverage*

#### **Chief Richard Carrizzo named as vice chair of FirstNet Authority board**

Urgent Communications, September 3

#### **FirstNet, Public Safety's Network, is Prepared for Hurricane Laura**

AT&T Technology Blog, August 26

#### **L3Harris Mobile Radios Receive FirstNet Ready Certification**

Mission Critical Communications, August 25

# FirstNet Board Approves FY21 Budget for Operations, Investments Inside Towers, August 19

## BE SOCIAL WITH FIRSTNET

 **FirstNet Authority**   
@FirstNetGov

#FirstNetintheNews – @FirstNet has supported #firstresponders across the country as they respond to the pandemic, from enabling remote work and telehealth to powering testing sites. Check out this article from @khillrcr and @rcrwirelessnews to learn more. [rcrwireless.com/20200826/publi...](https://rcrwireless.com/20200826/publi...)



 **NTIA**   
@NTIAgov

FirstNet Authority Retweeted

In a new video from @FirstNetGov, see how signal strength and network speed testing across the county demonstrated the benefits of #FirstNet for @GFR1882 in #Florida. Watch the video here: [youtu.be/B8emQ\\_GLp5w](https://youtu.be/B8emQ_GLp5w)



 **FirstNet Authority**   
@FirstNetGov

Watch this video to see how @FirstNet's dedicated fleet of deployables boost coverage and capacity during wildfires, hurricanes, floods, search and rescue missions, and more. #WeServeYou



**FirstNet Deployables**

1:04 1K views

**FirstNet Deployables in Action**  
FirstNet's dedicated deployables provide coverage/capacity to public safety at no cost to subscribers. Deployables have supported hundreds of operations including natural disasters and planned events.

 **FirstNet Authority**   
@FirstNetGov

Reliable coverage and dedicated capacity are fundamental needs for #publicsafety. When we created the #FirstNetAuthority Roadmap, we included the Coverage and Capacity domain to ensure #firstresponders have connectivity when and where they need it: [firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/...](https://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/...)



**COVERAGE AND CAPACITY**

0:13 427 views

**FirstNet Authority Roadmap: Coverage and Capacity Domain**  
Public safety told us that coverage and capacity are essential to their mobile broadband communications experience. Learn more about their feedback to the FirstNet Authority Roadmap.

The Public Safety Advocacy 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.