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State of Louisiana
Governor's Office of Homeland Security
and
Emergency Preparedness

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Louisiana FirstNet Initial Consultation Workshop

Baton Rouge (May 12) – The Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and Louisiana State Police (LSP) are co-hosting an initial consultation workshop for the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) communications network. FirstNet is a federal initiative to plan and build a nationwide, 4G/LTE broadband network for use by first responders. The system is designed to provide a cost-effective, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. The law that established FirstNet requires federal, state, tribal and local entities to determine if the proposed system could meet the needs of public safety across the country. Key stakeholders from each region of the state will be involved in this process.

"It is vitally important for us to examine this network, which would be dedicated for first responders and emergency managers," said GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis. "The goal is for FirstNet to provide high-speed data services to supplement the existing radio network. We have seen the importance of communications and technology during previous events. This initial consultation workshop will help gather requirements for developing the FirstNet deployment plan."

"As we evaluate FirstNet, the efficiency of our first responders and incident command is paramount," said Colonel Mike Edmonson, Superintendent of Louisiana State Police. "If Louisiana's first responders can communicate faster and more efficient in a time of need, all Louisiana residents will benefit."

Colonel Edmonson will serve as the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) as the state considers deployment of FirstNet. The state has been on the leading edge of emergency and disaster communications with the creation of the Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN).

Louisiana FirstNet Initial Consultation Workshop:

Date:

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Time:

Registration: 7:30 am

Workshop: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Location:

Crowne Plaza Executive Center
4728 Constitution Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

*****Selected video from the workshop will be available for FTP download at <ftp://ftp.lpb.org/la1stnet> by 9:00 pm (CST) Wednesday*****

You can receive emergency alerts on most smartphones and tablets by downloading the new ALERT FM App. It is free for basic service. You can also download the new Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other important information at www.getagameplan.org. The Get a Game Plan App is available for download to your smart phones or tablets.

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