



With the new year, we will notice many FirstNet activities that will interest all of us. I recently attended the FirstNet Board meeting in Houston where I learned first-hand on the **multiple activities planned** for both **outreach and technology**. Additional targeted outreach with key stakeholders and governance bodies will begin in the spring and last through the summer. FirstNet intends to release the RFP in January and our Louisiana team will get a good idea of the planned buildout and technology standards anticipated for the broadband network. We will continue to **keep our public safety partners up to date** on potential impacts for Louisiana. FirstNet will be in the New



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Orleans area later this month meeting with local Sheriffs and Chiefs as well as New Orleans leadership to discuss this national endeavor. I plan on being there with them.



FirstNet Focus: Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services **personnel** are potential high volume users of reliable, highspeed connectivity that can support real-time multimedia communications and FirstNet is committed to providing a network that meets the needs of all emergency responders. FirstNet board member and EMS **practitioner** Kevin McGinnis recently spoke about the potential of the FirstNet network in the Emergency Medical Services field. Read more about his thoughts in this <u>Urgent Communications article</u>.

Opportunity for Input on FirstNet Fees

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has published notice of proposed rulemaking to request public comment as it develops rules related to its review and approval of fees imposed by FirstNet as authorized by the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. <u>Read proposed rule, NTIA Authority Regarding First-Net Fees.</u>

DATES: Submit comments on or before January 14, 2016. Written comments may be submitted through <u>www.regulations.gov</u> or by mail to:

Office of Public Safety Communications; National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Avenue NW. Washington, DC 20230

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick Sullivan Office of Public Safety Communications National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce psullivan@ntia.doc.gov (202) 482–5948



Did you know?

FirstNet Bring Your Own Device Policy:

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) is taking steps to develop and implement an effective bring-your-own device (BYOD) policy for personal devices that will operate on the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). FirstNet hopes to allow public safety users to access the NPSBN on personally-owned devices, agency-owned devices, and devices that access the network through an intermediate connection like an in-vehicle router or mobile Wi-Fi hotspot. FirstNet's policy will aim to provide an acceptable user experience while accessing the NPSBN and also ensuring adequate security and control of the device and network. Read more here.

The Federal FirstNet User Advocacy Outreach team has

expanded its roster of public safety experts with the addition of three Senior Advisors who specialize in the fields of 9-1-1, EMS, and Fire. The new team members are Bill Hinkle (9-1-1), Brent Williams (EMS), and Mike Worrell (Fire). Read about the backgrounds of each new team member here.



Coming NEXT!

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee January 27, 2016– 1:30 pm Louisiana State Police Headquarters 7919 Independence Blvd. Baton Rouge