



What Can Data Do?

SPOC Update

James B. Waskom is appointed by Governor John Bel Edwards as the FirstNet Single Point of Contact (SPOC). Director Waskom currently serves as the **Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)** and is responsible for homeland security and emergency and disaster preparedness and response for the State of Louisiana.

Prior to the SPOC appointment by the Governor, Mr. Waskom was very involved and engaged in the day to day activities of FirstNet and the SLIGP grant program. His office is the current grant administrator of SLIGP and he sat on several panels at the request of FirstNet to discuss **Louisiana's needs as it relates to first responders and disaster preparedness**. Mr. Waskom looks forward to serving as SPOC for Louisiana and continuing to ensure the needs of Louisiana are addressed by the FirstNet contractor AT&T.



What will the FirstNet Network provide first responders that they don't have today?

Today, in emergencies and at large events, heavy public use can lead to **wireless communications networks becoming overloaded and inaccessible**. In those instances, public safety users are treated the same as any other commercial or enterprise user, and communications can be limited due to congestion and capacity issues.

With the FirstNet Network, public safety will get a **dedicated 'fast lane'** that provides **highly secure communications** every day and for every emergency. It will deliver specialized features to public safety that are not available on wireless networks today – such as **priority access, more network capacity, and a resilient, hardened connection**.

The Network will deliver more than just a public safety grade wireless connection – it also will create devices and apps ecosystems that will connect first responders to innovative, life-saving technologies.

Top 10 Frequently Asked Questions:
https://www.firstnet.gov/sites/default/files/FirstNet_Partnership_FAQs_.pdf

FirstNet Focus: What is the timetable for delivering draft and final State Plans?



FirstNet is prioritizing the development of State Plans. In order to deliver on the promise of **releasing draft State Plans to the governors, FirstNet is targeting a release date in the summer of 2017**. This will enable FirstNet and AT&T to engage with stakeholders on the **draft State Plans**. FirstNet expects to deliver the final State Plans simultaneously to each Governor through an online portal as soon as fall 2017. Once the final State Plans are delivered to the Governors, the **90 day review and decision period starts** (as specified in the legislation that created FirstNet). To learn more about the State Plans process, please see the following tutorial on key considerations for the [State Plan](#).

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Coming Next:

FirstNet Board Meeting
 Reston, VA
 June 28, 2017

SIEC General Meeting
 Baton Rouge, LA
 July 26, 2017