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SPOC Update

Recently I attended a FirstNet sponsored SPOC Conference near Denver, CO. This conference consisted of 2 days of meetings with 130 representatives from 51 states and territories. Based on information received at this Conference, I am confident the team FirstNet put together is on track to release an RFP in the coming months. The RFP will be a large step toward building a robust, secure broadband network for our first responder community. Hard work is happening at every level to ensure network success. We are looking forward to significant progress in the months to come.



What's NEW with



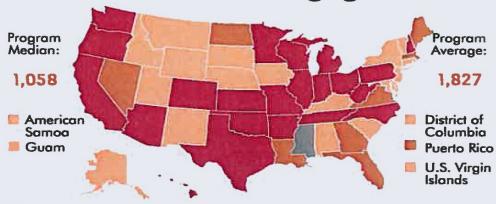


LA FirstNet has made significant progress over the past months in spreading the word about the future of public safety broadband - FirstNet and the NPSBN. As you can see from the chart below, across the country tens of thousands of first responders have heard about FirstNet and the advantages of a dedicated public safety network. With the addition of numbers from the last quarter, LA FirstNet staff have presented FirstNet information to a total of 1,796 recipients, and the LA FirstNet program is right in line with the rest of the country regarding numbers of stakeholders engaged.

Would you like to request LA FirstNet staff to speak to you, your department or a member group/association?

Request a speaker via our website: http://firstnet.louisiana.gov/request-a-speaker/

Stakeholders Engaged



- Below program median (0-899 stakeholders engaged)
- Approximates program median (900-1,299 stakeholders engaged)
- Above program median (1,300+ stakeholders engaged)

Did you know?

FirstNet Focus: Cybersecurity

FirstNet's National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) must be robust against intrusions -- but not so much that it prevents professionals from accessing it in emergencies. This is just one of several requirements for the system's cyber protection, according to a recent notice issued by FirstNet. Others include online and offline device monitoring, a strong identity access management system, and support for wearable devices in the era of "bring your own" technology.

Against the backdrop of the recent Office of Personnel Management hack, which exposed personal information from more than 20 million people, "a cybersecurity solution that establishes a secure network at the cost of delays or needless hindrances is not workable, and neither is a solution that permits immediate access but fails to adequately secure data," the notice said.

The network must also be able to provide continuous connectivity to public-safety missions that move around geographically, the notice said. Proposed solutions must also consider external factors such as power failure, heating failure, physical alarm systems, low generator fuel and lost and stolen devices, among others. Despite the threat of cyber intrusion, FirstNet emphasized in the notice the public-safety mission itself "takes primacy over the protection of the network.'

FirstNet collected input from the private sector, public-safety groups and other stakeholders on this Notice in anticipation of the upcoming release of the NPSBN request for proposals.

Coming NEXT!

FirstNet Board Meeting, Houston, Texas: December 8 and 9, 2015

Nationwide FirstNet RFP Release Date: December 2015 \ January 2016