Public Safety Advisory Committee

WHAT IS THE FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY (FIRSTNET)?

Signed into law on February 22, 2012, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act created the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). The law gives FirstNet the mission to build, operate and maintain the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. FirstNet will provide a single interoperable platform for emergency and daily public safety data communications.

FirstNet is an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration. FirstNet is governed by a 15-member Board consisting of the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and 12 members appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The FirstNet Board is composed of representatives from public safety; local, state and federal government; and the wireless industry.[1]

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PSAC)?

Consistent with requisites of the statute, FirstNet was required to establish a Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). FirstNet established the PSAC consisting of 40 members who represent public safety organizations[2] from all disciplines of public safety as well as State, territorial, tribal, and local governments. There are also at-large members and a Federal member. The mission of the PSAC is to assist FirstNet in carrying out its duties and responsibilities. Specifically, the PSAC:

- Offers FirstNet guidance, information, and subject matter expertise, from a public safety perspective, to ensure that needs, requirements, and operational constructs necessary for critical public safety capabilities are included in the envisioned network
- Provides subject matter expertise on concepts (e.g., policies, procedures, technologies, operational methods) developed by FirstNet
- Advises FirstNet through creating concept documents or recommendation reports related to the build out, deployment, and operation of a nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN)
- Conducts regular meetings to remain informed and up to date on FirstNet's progress

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[1]For additional information on FirstNet, see The Promise of FirstNet Fact Sheet and The Process for Working with FirstNet Fact Sheet

[2]PSAC webpage: http://firstnet.gov/about/public-safety-advisory-committee

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A PSAC MEMBER?

PSAC members represent key stakeholder groups. PSAC members serve on a voluntary basis and may be asked to participate in subcommittees and working groups to contribute to concept documents and recommendation reports based on their experience and expertise. Participation in the PSAC is critical to assist FirstNet with the establishment of the NPSBN. PSAC members are expected to attend meetings that are held virtually (e.g., teleconference, webinar) and in person meetings two or three times a year. Members are expected to keep their stakeholder groups informed and updated on PSAC activities that help to address the need to develop better technologies and processes for the multi-jurisdictional and cross-disciplinary coordination of existing systems and future networks.

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT PSAC EFFORTS?

Participation as subject matter experts on subcommittees and working groups will be topic specific and will continue until final reports or recommendations are accepted for presentation to FirstNet by the PSAC Executive Committee. Current ongoing efforts include:

- **Human Factors:** PSAC was asked by FirstNet to analyze the long range impacts of the NPSBN on the manner law enforcement, fire, EMS, and public safety communications centers operate and how they may be better served in addressing their duties once the network is built and operating. This task looks to answer several questions including:
    - What are the human elements and ergonomic factors that FirstNet needs to consider when designing the network and defining capabilities of user applications and devices?
    - What are potential user issues that will arise when using the NPSBN?
    - How will the NPSBN be used by first responders and how will it impact operations and the delivery of critical public safety services?

The FirstNet Board passed a resolution to accept the report on March 11, 2014.

- **Application / Use Cases:** The PSAC is developing use cases to illustrate how the envisioned technology, network, and applications will support the incident response by discipline (e.g., emergency medical services, fire, law enforcement)

- **Eligible Users:** The PSAC was asked by FirstNet to develop a list of eligible users of the NPSBN and definitions.

- **Tribal Outreach, Education, and Consultation Strategies:** FirstNet requested the PSAC establish a Tribal Working Group to provide FirstNet advice on tribal outreach, education, and inclusive consultation strategies to ensure full participation by tribal jurisdictions in the NPSBN.

- **Early Builder Strategies and Lessons Learned:** FirstNet requested the PSAC establish an Early Builder Working Group comprised of Adams County, Colorado; Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS), California; Harris County, Texas; New Mexico and New Jersey to provide FirstNet with early builder strategies and lessons learned that will assist in planning efforts for the NPSBN.

For questions on the PSAC and its activities, please contact PSAC@hq.dhs.gov.

FirstNet Board

Chair Sue Swenson
Secretary of Homeland Security, U.S. Attorney General
Director of the Office of Management & Budget, Barry Boniface, Tim Bryan, Charles Dowd, Craig Farrill, Paul Fitzgerald, Sam Ginn, Jeff Johnson, Kevin McGinnis, Ed Reynolds, Teri Takai, Wellington Webb

08/11/2014

FirstNet Staff

Deputy General Manager
TJ Kennedy

PSAC Executive Committee

PSAC Chair Harlin McEwen (Police-IACP)
PSAC Vice-Chair Bill McCammon (Fire-Metro Chiefs)
PSAC Vice-Chair Paul Patrick (EMS-NASEMSO)
PSAC Vice-Chair Thomas MacLellan (State-NGA)
PSAC Vice-Chair Tom Sorley (Local-USCM)

Public Safety Advisory Committee

(40 Members)

State, Territorial, Tribal and Local Subcommittee

NGA ..... Chair Thomas MacLellan
USCM..... Vice-Chair Tom Sorley
GHSAC..... Jimmy Gianato
IAEM ..... Joseph R. Sastre
ICMA..... Mark Ryckman
NACo..... Timothy Loewenstein
NARC..... Steve Cassano
NASCIO ..... Darryl Ackley
NASTD..... Charlie Sasser
NATOA..... Barry Fraser
NCAI..... Richard D. Broncheau
NCSWIC..... Michael Varney
NCSL..... Daniel Eaton
NEMA..... Ken Mallette
NLC ..... Scott Somers

Tribal Working Group

(Under Formation)

EC Liaison Thomas MacLellan

Chair Richard D. Broncheau
Vice Chair
Members

Early Builder Working Group

(Under Formation)

EC Liaison Tom Sorley

Adams County (CO)
Los Angeles-Rics (CA)
New Mexico (NM)-Darryl Ackley, Chair
New Jersey (NJ)
Texas (TX)-Todd Early, Vice Chair

Federal Work Group*

ECPC
Emergency Communications Preparedness Center

Chair Suzanne Spaulding (DHS)
PSAC Liaison Harlin McEwen
Agriculture Department
Commerce Department
Defense Department
Energy Department
Federal Communications Commission
General Services Administration
Health and Human Services Department
Interior Department
Justice Department
Labor Department
State Department
Transportation Department
Treasury Department

*The FirstNet Board has designated the ECPC as the Federal Coordinating Group to advise FirstNet on Federal user issues.

Public Safety Advisory Committee

PSAC Executive Committee

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PSAC Vice-Chair Thomas MacLellan (State-NGA)
PSAC Vice-Chair Tom Sorley (Local-USCM)

08/11/2014

1.	AASHTO	American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials	Paul J. Steinman
2.	APCO	Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International	Brent Lee
3.	APWA	American Public Works Association	Philip R. Mann
4.	FCCA	Forestry Conservation Communications Association	Chief Paul M. Leary
5.	GHSAC	Governors Homeland Security Advisors Council	Jimmy J. Gianato
6.	IAB	Interagency Board	Lt. Christopher Lombard
7.	IACP	International Association of Chiefs of Police	Chief Harlin McEwen
8.	IAEM	International Association of Emergency Managers	Joseph R. Sastre
9.	IAFC	International Association of Fire Chiefs	Chief Gary McCarraher
10.	ICMA	International City/County Management Association	Mark L. Ryckman
11.	IMSA	International Municipal Signal Association	Paul Szoc
12.	MCC	Major Cities (Police) Chiefs Association	Pat Neville
13.	MCSA	Major County Sheriffs' Association	Mel Maier
14.	Metro Chiefs	Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association	Chief Bill McCammon
15.	NACo	National Association of Counties	Timothy Loewenstein
16.	NAEMT	National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians	Don Lundy
17.	NARC	National Association of Regional Councils	Steve Cassano
18.	NASCIO	National Association of State Chief Information Officers	Darryl Ackley
19.	NASEMSO	National Association of State EMS Officials	Paul R. Patrick
20.	NASNA	National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators	Richard Taylor
21.	NASTD	National Association of State Technology Directors	Charlie Sasser
22.	NATOA	National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors	Barry Fraser
23.	NCAI	National Congress of American Indians	Richard D.Broncheau
24.	NCJA	National Criminal Justice Association	John M. Sweeney
25.	NCSL	National Conference of State Legislatures	Daniel A. Eaton
26.	NCSWIC	National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators	Michael Varney
27.	NEMA	National Emergency Management Association	Ken Mallette
28.	NEMSMA	National EMS Management Association	Jonathan Olson
29.	NENA	National Emergency Number Association	Trey Forgety
30.	NGA	National Governors Association	Thomas MacLellan
31.	NLC	National League of Cities	Scott Somers
32.	NPSTC	National Public Safety Telecommunications Council	Chief Douglas Aiken
33.	NSA	National Sheriffs' Association	Sheriff Larry D. Amerson
34.	SEARCH	National Consortium of Justice Information Statistics	Bonnie B. Maney
35.	USCM	U.S. Conference of Mayors	Tom Sorley
36.	At Large	SAFECOM EC	Steven H. Proctor
37.	At Large	Fire Non-Management First Line Responder	Mike Worrell
38.	At Large	Police Non-Management First Line Responder	Rory Neslund
39.	At Large	Police Non-Management First Line Responder	James N. Mann
40.	Federal	FirstNet	Vicki Lee

Questions in Massachusetts? Contact:

PSBO
Public Safety Broadband Office

psbo@state.ma.us
mass.gov/psbo

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Undersecretary, Forensic Science and Technology

Steve Staffier
Commonwealth Statewide Interoperability Coordinator

Michael Saltzman
Project Director