THE PROSPECT OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION FOR NG9-1-1

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GOAL: AVOID HISTORICAL PROBLEMS IN PUBLIC SAFETY

- Technology is costly, siloed, & proprietary
- Small vendor community, little bargaining power, and few options
- Interoperability is difficult and expensive to achieve, especially after-the-fact
  - Growing concern for pre-NG9-1-1 deployments
- Limited innovation and disruptive upgrades
- Disconnected from advances in consumer marketplace
  - Consumer expectations far from reality
• Telecom networks and other industry sectors have already converted to digital, IP, broadband technology
  o Smart cities, IoT, and intelligent highways are on the same path

• What do they have in common?
  ✓ Substantial range of companies innovating
  ✓ Seamless interoperability and data sharing without the need for specialized interfaces
  ✓ Consumers get excited for technology upgrades
  ✓ World-wide economies of scale

NG9-1-1 needs the same.
ACHIEVE INTEROPERABILITY

- PSAP-to-PSAP
- ESInet-to-ESInet
- State-to-State
- ESInet-to-origination networks
- NG9-1-1-to-FirstNet
WHAT’S NEEDED: A COMMON DEFINITION OF “NG9-1-1”

What do we gain? A definition that:

• Leads to comprehensive and uniform deployments nationwide
• Accounts for network (IP) connectivity AND the functions and equipment necessary for broadband information to be received, processed and acted upon at the PSAP – an end-to-end system
• Ensures that PSAPs modernize 9-1-1 in a manner that remains familiar to the public
• Creates a shared understanding among all stakeholders of what is needed to accomplish NG9-1-1
WHAT’S NEEDED: A COMMON DEFINITION OF “NG9-1-1”

“NG9-1-1 is a secure, nationwide, interoperable, standards-based, all-IP emergency communications infrastructure enabling end-to-end transmission of all types of data, including voice and multimedia communications from the public to an Emergency Communications Center.”
WHAT’S NEEDED: THE RIGHT KIND OF STANDARDS

Widely deployed commercial standards are key to:

• Ensuring that all PSAPs have the technical capabilities for interoperability including for mutual aid

• Increasing competition

• Achieving worldwide economies of scale for the costs of equipment and services

• Enabling public safety to keep pace with advances in the commercial sector
A one-time injection of federal funding is needed to upgrade legacy networks and equipment to IP-based, broadband-enabled, NG9-1-1 systems nationwide.

Congress could establish a grant program to accomplish several objectives for 9-1-1. For example, funding could be conditioned upon:

- Establishing and sustaining interoperability
- Leveraging widely deployed commercial standards to drive cost efficiencies
- Establishing sustainable funding mechanisms
- Preventing 9-1-1 fee diversion
- Promoting information and resource sharing
- Requiring the use of open and competitive procurement practices
QUESTIONS TO ASK IN THE MEANIME

• Can you guarantee that our ESInet and other IP-based equipment will be seamlessly interoperable with other ESInets and equipment, including across state boundaries?

• Can you guarantee that our ESInet will be seamlessly interoperable with origination networks? With FirstNet?

• If a solution complies with a particular standard, how have you ensured that your implementation of the standard aligns with others in the industry to achieve interoperability?

• Will you guarantee your solution to be interoperable without additional upgrades and new costs to the PSAP?

• Will your CPE, CAD, RMS, GIS or mobile app product be able to seamlessly share and exchange data with other equipment, without the need for special interfaces, additional costs?
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