

FirstNet is the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network, required by Public Law 112 -96. The First Responder Network Authority (FRNA) is the independent federal authority **established by Congress** to deliver FirstNet, and it is aligned under the Department of Commerce. The Authority reports and testifies to Congress annually on the progress and effectiveness of the FirstNet program.

In 2017, the federal government/FRNA, through a robust acquisition process under the Federal Acquisition Regulations, selected AT&T as its **private sector partner** to build, maintain, and upgrade FirstNet for 25 years **under the Authority's oversight**. This selection was based upon a best value award that met or exceeded the 16 objectives of the federal contracting solicitation.

Nationwide there are **currently over 28,000** federal, state, tribal, and local **agencies** and organizations, with more than **6 million connections** involving emergency medical services, fire services, law enforcement, and domestic emergency and disaster response organizations utilizing FirstNet.

For the 28,000+ agencies, **FirstNet provides:**

(1) always on, 24x7 **priority and preemption** for First Responders across data and voice communications;

(2) a **physically separate and highly secure network core** that is fully dedicated to FirstNet – utilizing end to end encryption and keeping public safety and emergency management traffic separate from commercial traffic; and

(3) a dedicated fleet of nearly 200 portable network **deployable assets** to support first responder and emergency manager connectivity for planned events, emergencies, in extremis, and other mission requirements - at no cost to FirstNet users.

Further, FirstNet:

- can be **connected to and complement an agency's closed land-mobile radio** (LMR) system to effectively extend LMR range, add operational capacity, and expand to provide video and data capability to LMR voice communications; and
- can provide **interoperability** across disparate agencies at federal, state, district, territory, and local levels.

As the private sector partner to build and implement FirstNet, AT&T and the FRNA **coordinated with the Governors and public safety officials** of the 56 states, territories, and DC to develop individual plans for each state/territory and to identify **specific new locations for FirstNet coverage** to address priority areas not previously supported. With this nationwide buildout complete to support FirstNet, AT&T is continuing to pursue expanded coverage in every state/territory to ensure **maximum coverage overall** for FirstNet.

More on the First Responder Network Authority and FirstNet is available at www.firstnet.gov