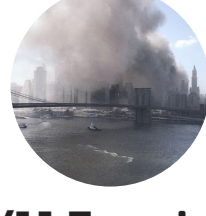


Creating America's Public Safety Broadband Network

FIRSTNET® TIMELINE



9/11 Terrorist Attacks

September 11, 2001

The September 11, 2001, attacks were one of the most devastating events in our nation's history. The tragedy also revealed fundamental problems with the communications systems used by America's first responders, such as radio system limitations preventing first responders from different agencies to speak with each other, and wireless networks becoming overwhelmed and congested hampering public safety voice and data transmissions.

Congress Creates the First Responder Network Authority

February 22, 2012

U.S. Congress created the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) as part of the bipartisan Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act. The law allocated 20 megahertz of spectrum and \$7 billion (in funds raised through spectrum auction) to establish a broadband network dedicated to the nation's first responders and gave the FirstNet Authority the mandate to build, operate, and maintain that network.

AT&T Answers Public Safety's Call

March 2017

After undergoing a rigorous RFP process, the FirstNet Authority [awarded AT&T](#) an innovative and success-based 25-year contract to build and manage the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (FirstNet) based on the high standards and objectives first responders require. Among the bids submitted, no other major wireless provider stepped forward to answer public safety's call for the creation of their own wireless network. By being selected as the private-partner, AT&T has a responsibility unlike any other wireless carrier.

Public Safety's Network Comes to Life

March 2018

Architected from the ground up for superior reliability, AT&T launched the dedicated, physically separate [FirstNet network core](#), giving first responders access to a highly secure and truly specialized communications system that is distinct from commercial network offerings to keep them mission ready.



Dedicated FirstNet Fleet of Deployable Network Assets

October 2018

From hurricanes and wildfires to major events like the Boston Marathon and 4th of July parades, public safety agencies on FirstNet, Built with AT&T gained access to their own dedicated fleet of [72 portable cell sites](#) to help first responders stay connected and operate faster, safer and more effectively when lives are on the line. FirstNet Fleet assets are available free of charge, 24x7x365 to agencies on FirstNet, giving them confidence they will have connectivity when and where they need it.

Furthering Mission-Critical Interoperability

March 2020

Developed from the ground up specifically for and with public safety, FirstNet Push-to-Talk (PTT) is the first-ever nationwide mission-critical standards-based push-to-talk solution to launch in the U.S. Joining a broad ecosystem of public safety-centric applications FirstNet Ready® devices, FirstNet PTT is the first in a suite of standards-based, mission-critical communications solutions and represents an evolution of the public safety broadband network, furthering a fundamental purpose of FirstNet: [interoperability](#).

Natural Disasters in the Midst of a Pandemic

September 2020 – Present

First responders never know exactly when and where disaster might strike, but they need to be ready. FirstNet has provided dedicated connectivity when needed for public safety to support their response to flooding, tornadoes, wildfires, building collapses, hurricanes, search & rescues, and other planned and emergency incidents.

In 2020, public safety made 750+ requests for FirstNet support – that represents a nearly 67% increase from the year prior. And with [100+ dedicated assets](#), as wildfires spread across the West and hurricanes hit the East, FirstNet is strategically deploying SatCOLTs and other solutions to help increase coverage in affected areas to support public safety needs.

Supporting First Responders at America's Capitol

January 6, 2021

FirstNet capabilities were put to the test during the Jan. 6 riots at the [U.S. Capitol](#): "The network was able to serve the first responders who were trying to defend the Capitol that day — commercial networks didn't have the same success. Without FirstNet, public safety's ability to respond and coordinate would have been even more difficult and complicated than it already was." – Charlie Guddemi, statewide interoperability coordinator for the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency.



Making First Responder Health & Wellness a Top Priority

April 2021

Nothing is more important than the lives of first responders and the people they serve day in, and day out. That's why AT&T established the [FirstNet Health & Wellness Coalition](#) – made up of leading public safety associations – to coordinate how we support holistic health and wellness of the public safety community.

Bringing a One-of-a-Kind 5G experience to First Responders

August 2021

FirstNet is not a commercial network. That's why it's essential we approach [5G](#) in a different way for first responders and take the right steps for public safety to effectively meet their unique mission needs. Now, public safety on FirstNet has access to AT&T mmWave (5G+) spectrum in parts of 38 cities and more than 20 venues, and first responders in 10 cities across the country have access to 5G connectivity, with more 5G rolling out every day.

The 9/11 Commission Report

2004

The [9/11 Commission Report](#) identified gaps in emergency communications and recommended a nationwide network for public safety communications. In the years that followed, public safety organizations and associations came together to call on Congress to pass legislation establishing a reliable, dedicated, highly secure, and nationwide high-speed network for first responders.



Building a Network with First Responders

January 2016

Public safety officials worked closely with the FirstNet Authority since its inception to ensure the FirstNet network meets first responders' needs – today and in the future. After consulting with more than 1.8 million first responders and state tribal, territorial, and local public safety and technology executives across the country, the FirstNet Authority issued an [RFP](#) to create a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership and help bring FirstNet to life.

Every State Says "Yes" to FirstNet

January 2018

After forming the public-private partnership, a custom FirstNet State Plan (based upon local public safety feedback) outlining how FirstNet would be deployed was shared with the governor of each U.S. state and territory. Every state and territory opted-in, meaning they said "Yes" to enabling FirstNet to be deployed as a single, interoperable nationwide network. And with the official green light, AT&T began the aggressive network build.

Strengthening Public Safety's Command and Control

August 2018

Unique in the industry, with the launch of the FirstNet Response Operations Group (ROG) public safety now has a level of support during emergencies and planned events that's far beyond anything they've ever seen. This team of former first responders is dedicated to working around the clock, 24x7x365, to support public safety's emergency communications needs and manages the deployment of the dedicated FirstNet Fleet of mobile cell sites.

FirstNet Takes to the Skies

December 2019

More than 10,000 agencies and organizations – representing over 1 million connections – are now using the FirstNet network. And with an eye on first responders' needs, AT&T went above and beyond its contractual commitment with the FirstNet Authority and launched the [FirstNet One](#) aerostat "blimp" – a first-of-its-kind public safety solution designed to keep public safety connected during large scale, catastrophic events.



Coronavirus: Exactly Why Public Safety Has FirstNet

March 2020 – Present

COVID-19 is an unprecedented event for the country. And FirstNet is helping America's first responders and medical professionals – resulting in a growth of FirstNet subscribers on the frontlines – in the fight against the pandemic. Examples include providing critical connectivity in hard-hit communities for field hospitals, quarantine locations, naval hospital ships, major medical centers, emergency operations centers, drive-thru testing and vaccination sites and more.

Driving an Ecosystem of Innovation

January 2021

As public safety's network, FirstNet has unique benefits first responders can't get anywhere else. Now, public safety can take advantage of [unique innovations](#) like Z-Axis and MegaRange™. Z-Axis is designed to assist with identifying where a first responder is located within a building. And MegaRange significantly boosts cellular transmission strength, enabling first responders to operate farther away from the edge of network coverage.



Connecting Rural and Remote Areas of America

February 2021

When designing the custom FirstNet State Plans, public safety and local leaders identified priority coverage areas. The FirstNet network expansion is helping to bridge the rural-urban digital divide to help ensure all of public safety – and the communities they serve – have access to critical connectivity to help meet the urgent challenges of today and tomorrow. FirstNet now covers 2.71 million square miles of the nation, and more than 15,000 public safety agencies and organizations – accounting for more than 2 million connections nationwide – have subscribed to FirstNet.

'ROG the Dog' Therapy Animals Support the Frontlines

July 2021

Therapy dogs are proven to have a positive impact on mental and physical health. That's why FirstNet launched the ["ROG the Dog"](#) animal-assisted therapy initiative. Currently comprised of over 30 animals stationed across the U.S., ROG the Dog has been deployed to support first responders on the frontlines of wildfires across the West and following other major disasters.



A Network Built for Tomorrow

Looking Ahead

The impacts of FirstNet have been real, tangible and, at times, lifesaving. We believe FirstNet is the most important wireless network in the nation because it is serving our first responders. And both AT&T and the FirstNet Authority are committed to continuously evolving and innovating to meet public safety's ongoing needs over the next 20+ years to help keep public safety and those they serve safer.