



CALLING FOR A NETWORK TO HELP YOU SAVE LIVES

Every day, first responders and those who support them face life-and-death decisions, from burning buildings to burning wildlands and viral outbreaks to school lockdowns, reliable communication is vital to a first responders' ability to serve and protect. Yet, first responders – the very people who need the best technology – had limited choice and access to advanced communication solutions. That's why FirstNet was born.

FirstNet grew out of the devastating losses from the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The attacks exposed glaring weaknesses in the nation's communications systems. Cell service was spotty. Countless emergency response teams could not communicate using their trusted radios. And many first responders lost their lives.

FirstNet is Born

Sept. 11 shed light on a host of flaws in first responder communications. The 9/11 Commission Report identified challenges and gaps and then recommended a nationwide communications network just for public safety.

In the years after the report's release, public safety organizations and associations came together to advocate for such a network and to encourage Congress to pass legislation to create this network.

In 2012, Congress passed an act that created the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) and charged it with building a nationwide communications network just for first responders.

The law also required the FirstNet Authority to consult with federal, state, tribal, and local public safety entities to ensure FirstNet was designed to meet their needs across the country. These consultations with public safety entities helped to shape the FirstNet Authority's Request for Proposal (RFP). And they helped give shape to the State Plans the FirstNet Authority issued to every U.S. state, territory, and the District of Columbia.

AT&T Answers the Call

In 2017, in a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership, the FirstNet Authority awarded AT&T a 25-year contract to build, deliver and operate FirstNet – an innovative ecosystem, comprising the network and devices, applications and services just for public safety. AT&T was the only major commercial carrier to bid and commit to build and maintain the only nationwide network for first responders.

After forming a partnership with AT&T, the FirstNet Authority issued the customized state plans outlining how FirstNet would be deployed.

Thanks to years spent consulting with public safety agencies across the country – and combined with AT&T's deep knowledge of and service to public safety – the FirstNet Authority had an understanding of the needs of first responders nationwide.

First responders put their lives on the line every day to help others. They deserve reliable and highly secure communication. ■



No Throttling

For FirstNet subscribers **anywhere** in the U.S.



Always-On Priority

Never competing with commercial traffic



Band 14 Spectrum

For **dedicated connectivity** when and where you need it



Highly Secure Network

With comprehensive tower-to-core **encryption**

FIRSTNET: From a vision to America's Public Safety Network



March 2010

The FCC follows the recommendation of the 9/11 Commission to create a nationwide public safety network.

February 2012

The First Responder Network Authority is authorized to develop and oversee the dedicated nationwide network for first responders.

March 2017

With over 100 years of public safety experience, AT&T is awarded the contract to build and maintain FirstNet.



March 2018

AT&T launches the dedicated FirstNet network core.

December 2019

FirstNet hits 1M connections serving over 10,000 public safety agencies nationwide.

December 2022

FirstNet surpasses over 2.9 million square miles of coverage – 250,000 more square miles than commercial networks.

Today

With 5.5M+ connections and 27,500+ agencies and organizations on FirstNet, with you we are developing the tools that advance public safety.*

*as of 1/24/2024

“Nothing worked down here,
except FirstNet.”

— Jeffrey Marani, Global Medical Response



Learn how FirstNet showed up for Global Medical Response (GMR) when disaster hit and the chips were down. And see how GMR uses FirstNet to keep its teams connected. [Go to **FirstNet.com/power-of-firstnet/response-to-disasters**](https://www.firstnet.com/power-of-firstnet/response-to-disasters)