



FirstNet | AT&T Public-Private Partnership For a Nationwide Public Safety Network

The Partnership

- FirstNet and AT&T announced their Network partnership on March 30, 2017, and are bringing their resources and expertise together for the benefit of public safety.
- FirstNet brings its relationships with states, territories, tribes, federal agencies, and public safety and deep public safety expertise to this partnership, as well as 20 MHz of spectrum (Band 14) and \$6.5 billion in initial funding for the Network.
- AT&T is a proven technology partner and will use its private sector expertise and best practices to focus on building and operating the nationwide network for public safety.
- AT&T is making a significant investment in public safety: \$40 billion over the 25-year life of the contract.
- Instead of conducting a “greenfield” build of the Network, this public-partnership will leverage AT&T’s national footprint and commercial resources – including a \$180 billion infrastructure. This will help deliver specialized features, faster to public safety.
- Public safety, through direct consultation with FirstNet, will continue to play a key role in the implementation and evolution of the network. FirstNet will advocate for public safety’s needs and ensure that AT&T delivers services that public safety needs. We will continue to support those efforts.
- This network will not be static. FirstNet will also direct reinvestment and upgrades to the Network, so it evolves with technology and continuously delivers innovation – such as 5G, Internet of Things, and mission critical push-to-talk – to public safety.

The Network and Key Solutions

- Through Consultation, FirstNet worked closely with the states and territories (SPOCs) to gather input, feedback, and data from the public safety community over the last 3+ years; this information and collaboration are evident in the Network solution FirstNet will deliver through its partnership with AT&T.
- FirstNet’s partnership with AT&T will deliver what public safety needs from the Network – a differentiated, modernized, and specialized service that isn’t available to commercial customers.



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- The following are key high-level aspects of the solution for a dedicated nationwide network for public safety:

Rapid buildout: The FirstNet solution will be established on the foundation of AT&T's infrastructure, estimated at \$180 billion. This will help speed deployment and keep costs low for public safety.

Quality of Service/Priority: One of the key benefits of the partnership will be the availability of quality of service and guaranteed priority for data services after a governor opts in. These features will be made available over the entire AT&T nationwide network (AT&T LTE bands) at no extra cost to AT&T public safety subscribers.

- (For background: Some wireless carriers currently offer priority service today - including AT&T. However, typically, the service costs extra, is available to enterprise users, in addition to public safety, and does not guarantee that a user can make and receive calls, rather, it only puts the subscriber at the front of the line for access to the Network.)

Preemption: FirstNet's goal is to add preemption (for opt-in states) on all AT&T LTE bands by the end of 2017. The feature will provide public safety subscribers with full access to the Network when the need arises without competition from commercial customers. It would be available to public safety nationwide as AT&T builds out Band 14.

Dedicated customer service tailored for public safety: This Network will provide public safety, for the first time, with a dedicated help desk specifically for them – 24/7, 365, like their mission.

Devices and apps: AT&T's economies of scale – which includes 150 million+ current customers – will help deliver a device and app ecosystem to public safety. This should allow public safety to have access to the newest equipment accessories at a more reasonable price point.

- FirstNet and AT&T will deliver more information to the states and territories on key features of the solution – such as coverage – as they engage with the states and territories on State Plans and discuss the solution set with public safety.

Next Steps | State Plans

- FirstNet and AT&T are working together to finalize a schedule for the release of draft State Plans and official delivery of State Plans to the governors.
- FirstNet expects to release draft State Plans to the states/territories in the summer of 2017 and deliver State Plans to the governors by the fall of 2017.