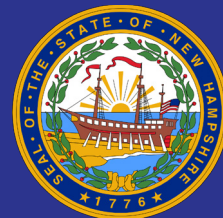


Office of Interoperability Newsletter



Message from John T. Stevens, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) & Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for FirstNet in NH



It's truly unfortunate that fall foliage doesn't last, but between all the rain, cloudy days, and persistent strong winds, the colors of fall are quickly fading to winter. It's hard to believe that Thanksgiving is a mere two weeks away and the Holiday Season is upon us, but change appears to be the only thing that is consistent.

Change is arbitrary and it often comes in certain magnitudes. I look at all the accomplishments of the SIEC over the past five years and how it has positively represented the public safety community. The year 2018 will be known for New Hampshire's commitment to FirstNet and the collaboration that has taken place with AT&T. We have moved far beyond the negotiation stage and have worked with FirstNet/ AT&T to create an infrastructure that will support broadband connectivity dedicated to all first responders throughout New Hampshire. On behalf of the SIEC we wish to congratulate Derry as being the first community in New Hampshire to transition their broadband provider over to AT&T. AT&T has, without question been a strong supporter of the public safety community and has exhibited their commitment to provide FirstNet capability statewide, as we look forward to significant infrastructure development in 2019.



Two of the most noteworthy programs beyond FirstNet/ AT&T that have occurred in 2018 has been the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) update Workshop that took place in June and the Tactical Interoperability Communications Field Operations Guide (TIC-FOG) Workshop that just took place in October. Many thanks to US DHS OEC's Technical Assistance Program for providing the workshop facilitators that provided two quality programs. The Goals and Objectives that were outlined in the SCIP, once satisfied, will lead New Hampshire to increased interoperable capability over the next 4 to 5 years, while the TIC-FOG remains a work in progress that optimistically will be available to all first responders in New Hampshire by the first of the year 2019 as either a pocket guide to statewide communications, or provided as an application within your cell phone.

Significant to the many accomplishments of the SIEC is the work being done by the Radio Frequency Working Group that has not only standardized network LMR, but through their proactive participation in Safety's Grant Committee, radio re-programming will be a reality later in 2019. Public Safety has long realized the importance of standardization and with the authority of the SIEC, public safety agencies will be able to apply for grant monies that will provide for this re-programming effort. This is a statewide initiative that will affect multi-discipline public safety entities and be the catalyst for addressing statewide interoperability programmatic.

As we look forward to what 2019 will bring concerning interoperable enhancements in support of the public safety community regarding next generation communications technology I wish to first acknowledge the commitment made by the SIEC membership and wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Safe, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

Derry Police Department is First Municipal Agency in New Hampshire to Transform Public Safety Communications with FirstNet

New Technologies Expand Our Capabilities to Better Serve Derry

DERRY, N.H., Oct. 23, 2018 — The Town of Derry's Police Department has implemented a much-needed technology upgrade with FirstNet – a groundbreaking new communications platform just for public safety.

FirstNet is the nationwide public safety communications platform dedicated to America's first responders – available when and where we need it. Being built with AT&T, in public-private partnership with the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority), it gives our communications capabilities a major boost, providing a reliable and highly secure connection.

"We're proud to be the first municipal agency in New Hampshire to adopt FirstNet," said Derry Police Chief Edward Garone. "Being in public safety, it's imperative to have reliable communications that we can count on when the Town of Derry is counting on us. FirstNet will enable us to provide an enhanced emergency response for our residents – one that's supported by the most current public safety technology available."

"We are very excited to see FirstNet capabilities come to fruition in New Hampshire. Through a strong collaborative effort on behalf of the FirstNet Authority, AT&T and the State of New Hampshire, public safety will benefit when taking the opportunity to experience next generation communication technology," said John T. Stevens, New Hampshire's Statewide Interoperability Coordinator. "The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee has worked diligently over the past few years to provide broadband capability to many areas of the state that have not experienced it in the past. We congratulate the Town of Derry as the first community in New Hampshire to take advantage of this technology, and we anticipate the FirstNet network platform will provide similar benefits throughout the New Hampshire's public safety community."

By subscribing to FirstNet, the Derry Police Department will be able to keep officers connected to the critical information they need. It will help ensure they can easily and quickly communicate with one another during everyday situations, big events or emergencies.

"Thinking back to the crippling ice storms we had a couple of years ago, FirstNet would've been a huge help. With priority and preemption, FirstNet gives us a clear line of communication at all times. And with how fast technology moves – from situational awareness apps to accountability systems and more – we're excited to be on the cutting edge of what's to come," Chief Garone added.

Our decision to join FirstNet was based on 3 critical factors:

- **Groundbreaking Technology** – FirstNet is the only platform that gives first responders always-on priority and preemption. That means we'll have access to the connection we need – even when the network is congested. This will help us keep ourselves and those we serve safe and secure. We look forward to taking advantage of additional mission-critical capabilities as the technology advances.
- **System Reliability** – FirstNet is the only system purpose-built to the high standards of public safety based on an understanding of our needs. Plus, AT&T will be held accountable by the First Responder Network Authority to deliver on their commitment to design and build a solution that meets our needs for years to come.
- **Affordability with No Speed Limits** – We demand a lot. And FirstNet gives us a premier service at a cost savings. Plus, our access to the important information we need will not be throttled anywhere in the country.

When a major event occurs, it's important to share data with other responders. As more agencies join FirstNet, it will drive a greater level of interoperability. This will help us communicate with ease across agencies, jurisdictions and even state lines.

"We're honored that the Derry Police Department chose FirstNet to elevate their communications capabilities," said Patricia Jacobs, president, AT&T – New England. "It's our mission to give first responders cutting-edge tools they can use to help keep themselves and those they serve out of harm's way. And we look forward to helping Derry's officers achieve their life-saving mission."

From New Hampshire's Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee to Governor Sununu, we've had a lot of great support in our transition to FirstNet. Plus, working with AT&T, subscribing to FirstNet was seamless. Our officers are all now equipped with the game-changing technology.

"FirstNet is the exclusive communications platform built with AT&T for public safety, inspired by public safety – there is no substitution for this network that they fought for," said FirstNet Authority Acting CEO Edward Parkinson. "We look forward to supporting the Derry Police Department and all of New Hampshire's public safety community with FirstNet, making sure it delivers what they need, when they need it."

To learn more about the Derry Police Department, go to <https://www.derrynh.org/police-department>.

To learn more about FirstNet, go to FirstNet.com. To learn more about subscribing to FirstNet, contact Lisa Benincasa at 978.645.1876 or lisa.benincasa@att.com.



A photo of New Hampshire's new FirstNet deployable. This deployable is one of 72 dedicated FirstNet deployables shared through a dedicated lending library nationwide. These deployables are stationed across the country, ready to be deployed within a 14 hour time frame. In addition to emergencies, they can be requested for planned events as well. The 72 FirstNet-dedicated deployables are available 24/7 at the request of FirstNet subscribers and at no cost to public safety. This deployable has made stops in Massachusetts during the gas crisis and even went down to Georgia during Hurricane Michael.

Have a news story you'd like us to feature? Drop us a line.
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