



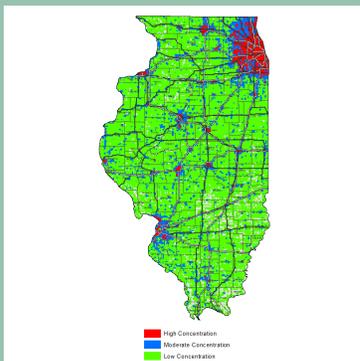
Illinois FirstNet Staff

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- Bob Evans, Program Administrator
- Bill Springer, System Architect and Outreach
- Dan Meseke, Data Analyst
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Illinois FirstNet

Quarterly Newsletter

July 2017

Issue 9

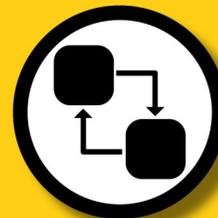
The FirstNet Mission: To develop, build and operate the country's first nationwide broadband network dedicated to public safety.

“The Illinois FirstNet Project: Bringing You Dedicated Mission Critical Wireless Broadband”

In this Issue:

- Joe Galvin addresses the review of the State Plan on Page 2.
- Bill Springer announces three Regional FirstNet Sessions on Page 3.
- Dan Meseke reminds us of the upcoming annual validation on page 4.

Federal FirstNet awarded the contract to AT&T. AT&T has delivered the required State Plans. See inside for more information on our three upcoming Regional Sessions August 1, 2 & 3.



FirstNet State Plans



Joe Galvin
Project Lead



On Tuesday, June 19, 2017, FirstNet provided Director James Joseph, as the Governor-appointed Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for the State, with access to the proposed FirstNet/AT&T Plan for implementation and operation of the network within Illinois. The FirstNet Public/Private partnership venture is aimed at building, operating, and maintaining a nationwide broadband data network designed to meet the distinct communications needs of public safety: interoperability, security, availability, and reliability at the speed and level of efficiency required by first responders.

FirstNet was born of the “Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012” which became law on February 22, 2012. As an independent authority within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce, FirstNet is required to establish a nationwide, interoperable public safety wireless broadband network to provide a single platform for daily, as well as emergency and crisis, public safety communications use. Since 2013, representatives of the public safety community from the State, county, and local levels of government in Illinois have spent considerable time and energy meeting and educating the Federal FirstNet team as to how such a network could best serve public safety personnel and citizens of Illinois. The meetings also provided the State with the opportunity to share concerns about issues relating to system security, management, procedures, costs, and other potential issues.

Since we now have access to the FirstNet plan regarding network operations within Illinois, it is now incumbent upon Governor Bruce Rauner to determine how the State will proceed. The “Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012” gives the Governor of each State and Territory the choice of determining whether the State/Territory will “Opt-In” and take advantage of FirstNet, or “Opt-Out” of participation in FirstNet, and assume responsibility for building, operating, and maintaining a network within that State/Territory that is capable of interoperating with FirstNet. The Illinois FirstNet team will be performing a preliminary review of the proposed plan, with secondary review and discussion with emergency responders during three regional meetings in August. The consensus recommendation of the group discussions will be forwarded to Governor Rauner for consideration. If you have any questions please contact me at: Joe.Galvin@illinois.gov.

Joe

BASED ON THE STATE PLAN, THE STATE GOVERNOR CAN:	
OPT-IN	OPT-OUT
FirstNet and AT&T will deploy, maintain and operate the state Radio Access Network (RAN) at no cost to the state for 25 years. Once a state opts in, FirstNet services will be available to public safety agencies and personnel in that state.	Opt-out means that the state is responsible for deployment, operation, maintenance, and improvement of a public safety RAN in that state—including costs and risks.

Bill Springer - FirstNet Regional Session Update

Bill Springer System Architect



We are scheduling presentations and vendor booths for various public safety conferences. Please contact our project office if you are interested in learning more about FirstNet.



Dear Stakeholders,

After years of effort and work on the FirstNet project, we are finally seeing some very rapid progress. FirstNet, at the Federal level, has chosen AT&T to be their partner to implement and operate the nationwide FirstNet network that is dedicated to Public Safety.

AT&T has delivered the required State Plans to each of the 56 States & Territories. The Illinois team is reviewing our State Plan in order to make a recommendation to the Governor about whether Illinois should Opt-In or Opt-Out and build our own network.

Please join us at one of the three informational sessions the Illinois FirstNet team will be holding here in Illinois. In addition to the Illinois Team, there will be representatives from the Federal FirstNet organization and AT&T's FirstNet group in attendance as well. We will all be available to answer your questions, and discuss topics that are important to you and your agency.

You Are Invited!

You Are Invited!

Tuesday - Aug 1 10am – 2pm

College of DuPage – Homeland Education Center (HEC) Building

Corner of Fawell Blvd and Lambert Rd

Room 1022 - Courtroom

425 Fawell Blvd

Glen Ellyn, IL

Wednesday - Aug 2 10am – 2pm

Rolland Lewis Community Building

800 South 27th St

Mt. Vernon, IL

Thursday - Aug 3 10am – 2pm

IEMA Building

2200 South Dirksen Parkway

Springfield, IL

We will be providing a working lunch, **please RSVP so we can get an accurate count for lunch.**

To RSVP, click on [FirstNet page](#) or go to (<https://www.ileas.org/firstnet>).

We hope to see you at one of the sessions! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at: waspringer@ileas.org or call our project office at 217.531.0499.

Warning: CASM Annual Validation Ahead

Within the next few weeks, you will be receiving a reminder that it is time for the annual validation of the Communications Assets Survey and Mapping (CASM) database. Despite the major progress which has occurred in the last year, largely thanks to the diligent efforts of the more than 300 of you who have stepped up to self-initiate an authentication of your agency's data, the vast majority of records remain unchecked, incomplete, or aged.

Please keep in mind that access to CASM is offered to you by the Office of Emergency Communications Interoperability Communications Technical Assistance Program (OEC/ICTAP), to serve as the nation's primary resource for planning and implementing interoperability. CASM is the resource to be used to collect information about land mobile radio systems in use, interoperability methods, and how those methods are used. It provides a means to display that data, and allows users to analyze the information and define the gaps. The ability to share accurate information benefits public safety by helping to identify and solve communications problems.

There is no mandate that requires you to regularly review and maintain your CASM data. There's no stick, no threat, no legislation, no requirement, and no material penalty assessed to your agency for not making the effort to ensure the information you have on file is current, complete, and correct. But, by making a relatively small investment of time, you are showing other public safety entities that you're serious about improving communications and operations at the inter-agency level. Consider your options: you can take the easy way out and do nothing, without penalty; or, you can demonstrate some pride, invest some time, and show the public safety community that your agency values the benefits of working shoulder to shoulder with them, and is willing to invest in making that happen more efficiently.

Beginning the first week of September, designated agency points of contact will receive an email containing current information, along with a request to review and make any necessary revisions. After the review is done and all additions and changes have been made, please use the "Additional Notes" to note that the record was updated, and include the title and name of the person making the changes, and the date and time the changes were made.

Dan Meseke
Data Analyst



If you would like to preempt the September reminder and beat the rush, but don't have a CASM authorized agent on staff, you can easily request access:

- Access the Public Safety Tools website:
www.publicsafetytools.info
- Direct Links to Applications
 - ◆ **SELECT:** Communications Assets Survey Mapping Tool
- Read the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) Disclaimer
 - ◆ **CLICK:** OK
- **SELECT:** "Request New Access"
- **COMPLETE** the, "CASM NextGen Access Request" form. If you complete all the required fields, and get the math correct, the "Save" icon should become accessible; if so,
 - ◆ **CLICK:** "Save."

Your request will be forwarded for processing. You should receive a response within 24 hours, providing you with a User ID. You will also receive, via separate email, a temporary password to give you access.

As always, you can feel free to contact me with any questions at: dcmeseke@ileas.org.

Dan

