



Resolution on Prepaid Wireless Communication Services and Wireless 9-1-1 Emergency Services Fees and Surcharges

Adopted March 2007

WHEREAS, The public has high expectations for effective and accessible 9-1-1 emergency services regardless of the communications technology used or the means of purchasing the technology; and

WHEREAS, Funding of wireless 9-1-1 emergency services is critical to meeting the public's expectations for effective and accessible 9-1-1 emergency services; and

WHEREAS, Prepaid wireless service offerings are a growing and significant part of the wireless communications market; and

WHEREAS, States and localities usually collect wireless 9-1-1 emergency service fees and surcharges within states and localities based on the customers and/or telephone numbers serviced within the area; and

WHEREAS, There have been disputes in several states concerning whether state and/or local wireless 9-1-1 emergency services fees and surcharges were meant to apply to prepaid services, or under what methodology collection is reasonable; and

WHEREAS, Such disputes or litigation take time and resources from all the involved parties and promote continued uncertainty and animosity; and

WHEREAS, As a matter of policy and fairness, providers of prepaid wireless communications that compete with traditional wireless communication connection services should contribute on an equitable basis to funding 9-1-1 emergency services and should be accountable on a basis similar to that of providers of traditional wireless communication connections; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED, The Boards of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International and the National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators (NASNA) find that in states that have not yet done so, there is an important need for all members of the public safety community and the wireless service provider community in the state to come together expeditiously and cooperatively to clarify or adopt in each state policies, as applicable, that providers of prepaid wireless communication services that compete with traditional wireless communication services should contribute on an equitable basis to funding 9-1-1 emergency services and should be accountable on a basis similar to that of providers of traditional wireless communication connections; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the Boards of the National Emergency Number Association, the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International and the National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators direct their staff, in coordination with other interested organizations, to communicate the contents contained in this resolution to policymakers at the state level.