

SUBJECT: Nominations Sought for the NG9-1-1 Interoperability Oversight Commission

NENA invites members of the 9-1-1 community to submit nominees to represent stakeholder interest categories on the NG9-1-1 Interoperability Oversight Commission (Commission). This body will provide independent oversight of the PSAP Credentialing Agency (PCA) and the Forest Guide, two functional elements required to be operated centrally for NG9-1-1 to work according to prevailing standards. These requirements come from specifications developed under NENA's standards Development Group (NDG) and the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF).

REQUEST:

Members of the 9-1-1 community are invited to nominate an individual to serve on this Commission.

Please send all nominations to NENA's Technical Director, Brandon Abley, at babley@nena.org by February 24th, 2020.

In submitting a nominee, please provide the following documentation (or equivalent):

- The nominee's resume or CV
- A short statement describing the nominee's qualifications, such as related technical expertise and/or subject domain in 9-1-1
- A short statement clarifying the rationale that the nominee represents the identified stakeholder group
- Evidence that the nominee represents the identified stakeholder group, if applicable, such as an affirmative vote of a board of directors nominating the nominee to sit on the Commission

BACKGROUND:

These programs are central to interoperability for the architecture defined for NG9-1-1 across standards bodies, and must be managed by a neutral party with independent oversight and no profit motive. Accordingly, NENA's Board of Directors (Board) has directed its staff to establish the PCA and Forest Guide programs in full conformance with standards for NG9-1-1. Additionally, the Board has directed the NENA staff to solicit applications for individuals to serve on an independent oversight body that will oversee the work done by the NENA staff to establish and manage these programs. This body is the Commission. Among other things, the Commission will approve contracts entered into to manage these services, approve any related policies, and approve the budget and fee schedule for the programs. These programs will be operated with no profit motive and books fully open to the public.

The PCA serves as the root of trust for an NG9-1-1 Public Key Infrastructure (PKI). The public internet

uses several hundred such roots of trust operated by a variety of Certificate Authorities (CAs), any of which are suitable for secure communications over the internet. However, it is common for critical infrastructure industries to establish a dedicated root of trust that is only available to members of that industry within a PKI. The PCA is that shared root of trust, to be overseen by the independent Commission.

The Forest Guide serves as the top-level element for location-based routing (LBR). In NG9-1-1, when an individual places an emergency call, the correct PSAP to which that call is delivered is typically determined by the caller's location. This is LBR. Standards for NG9-1-1 envision a Forest Guide, which serves as a top-level routing node for a large region—such as the United States—that provides assistance when an LBR mechanism does not know which PSAP serves a location. The NENA Forest Guide provides that service for at least the United States, to be overseen by the independent Commission.

Both of these services are critical for NG9-1-1 interoperability and must be managed by a neutral party with independent oversight. The Board has designated the NENA staff as that neutral party, and the Commission as the independent oversight. The Commission controls all policy and financial matters for the operation of these services. The accounting for these services is fully open to the general public. The NENA staff will execute the work of deploying and managing these programs under the direction of the Commission.

Per the Commission's own bylaws approved by the NENA Board, the Commission's membership shall be representative of 9-1-1's needs and interests, including stakeholder entities that are involved with the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) for NG9-1-1. The voting seats on the Commission are as follows:

- The president of the Board;
- One member from the NENA Development Steering Council;
- One member from the NENA 9-1-1 Core Services Committee;
- One member representing a U.S. state, provincial, or national non-U.S. 9-1-1 authority with responsibility for operating an NG9-1-1 network;
- One member representing local or regional 9-1-1 authorities with responsibility for operating an NG9-1-1 network within a region smaller than a US state or province, such as a county, metropolitan area or a council of governments;
- One member representing commercial providers of NG9-1-1 core services;
- One member representing commercial providers of NG9-1-1 end-user products;
- One member representing organizations with a direct responsibility for handling 9-1-1 emergency calls;
- One member representing elected officials who does not represent a public safety agency, with oversight of 9-1-1 services; and
- One member representing public safety associations not otherwise represented.

Additionally, there are **non-voting** seats for the following:

- One member representing the United States National 911 Program;
- One member representing the United States Federal Communications Commission;
- One member representing the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission;
- and
- One member representing the NENA staff.

The NENA staff will collect all nominations and will present them to the Board by the last day of February. The Board will then evaluate each nominee, and in the case that multiple individuals are nominated for one seat, the Board will consider each individual's qualifications as well as how each proposed nominee will provide a well-rounded group that truly represents the 9-1-1 industry. Self-nominations are allowed, but not encouraged.

The bylaws of the Commission are attached.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian L. Fontes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brian Fontes, CEO
NENA: The 9-1-1 Association