

For Immediate Release
April 5, 2019



FirstNet Association Houston TX Regional Event a Success

The FirstNet Association (FNA) launched their eighth educational event for First Responders on April 4, 2019 in Houston, Texas

Las Vegas, NV— April 6, 2019 — The event was held at the Wyndham Hotel Houston West – Energy Corridor in Houston Texas and was attended by over 50 public safety and government emergency services professionals representing a diverse cross-section of FirstNet primary users. The event was coordinated by the FirstNet Association’s (FNA) executive director, Martha Ellis and board members including three of the foremost subject matter experts on FirstNet; Al Gillespie (President), Richard Mirgon (Vice President, Treasurer), and Ray Flynn (Vice President, Secretary). In addition, the First Responder Network Authority (FRNA) and FirstNet network solutions team representatives were in attendance at the event and shared important updates and insights.

The objective of the FNA is to continually engage and connect the public safety end-user with FirstNet network developers, technology innovators and our federal partners with the FRNA. In bringing these groups together, the FNA is able to connect all of the stakeholders in the FirstNet effort.

Sheriff Christopher Kirk from Brazos Texas kicked off the event with his personal and insightful experiences with FirstNet in his jurisdiction. Our local partners from the Houston FirstNet Solutions Consulting team gave a detailed briefing on the local network status and adoption statistics. All aspects of the FirstNet security requirements were also covered. Most notable, however, was the live demonstration of the Local Control Portal, available to all FirstNet adopters. The Houston team walked attendees through the process of “uplifting” their extended primary partners, such as transportation and public utilities, in the event those agency resources would be needed for a specific incident. This was a fantastic demonstration on how local officials play a key role in managing their FirstNet network access and use.

Ecosystem development partners provide a glimpse into current and developing technology designed to support and connect the public safety end-user. We were pleased to partner with Cradlepoint, our Diamond Partner, Sierra Wireless, a Session Partner and Intrepid, who graciously sponsored lunch for the Houston forum.

Ryan Burchnell with FirstNet built by AT&T provided valuable insights into the Response Operations program for FirstNet users. Presenting on the emergency and non-emergency application for requesting deployable assets, Ryan was able to share real life deployment stories and successes, in addition to program updates and use information.

The Forum concluded with a robust dialogue during the Town Hall session; a solid hour of questions, perspective and information-sharing taking place between FirstNet primary users, experts and our partners.

FirstNet Association Regional Forums provide a unique opportunity for FirstNet Association partners through event sponsorship. FirstNet users, who want to learn more and offer their firsthand perspective, are also eager to engage with innovators and network developers on the first responder experience. FirstNet association offers a broad array of opportunities to meet your marketing objectives and budgets before, during, and after each event.

For additional information concerning upcoming regional forums including registration links and sponsorship opportunities, please go to <https://www.firstnetassociation.org>.

###

Media Contacts:



Martha Ellis
Executive Director, FirstNet Association
mellis@firstnetassociation.org
(801) 599-3100



Crosby Grindle
Director of Strategic Partnerships, FirstNet Association
cgrindle@firstnetassociation.org
(541) 948-3146