2015 Public Safety Broadband Stakeholder Meeting

Speaker Biographies

Dereck Orr – PSCR

Dereck Orr is the Program Manager for Public Safety Communication Standards at NIST's Communication Technology Laboratory (CTL) and has held that position since December 2002. In that role, he leads the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program that serves as an objective technical advisor and laboratory to the Department of Homeland Security and public safety to accelerate the adoption and implementation of the most critical public safety communication standards and technologies. From October 2003 until October 2004, Mr. Orr was detailed to the Department of Homeland Security to serve as the Chief of Staff of the SAFECOM Office within the Science and Technology Directorate, to help establish the new program. Prior to working at NIST, Mr. Orr served as a professional staff member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, and Related Agencies under Senator Fritz Hollings. In that position, Mr. Orr was responsible for the appropriations accounts relating to state and local law enforcement issues. Prior to that, Mr. Orr served four years at the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) at the Department of Justice. Mr. Orr received a Masters in Public Policy from the College of William and Mary and a Bachelor of Arts in American History from the University of Texas at Austin.

Sue Swenson – FirstNet

Susan Swenson brings extensive experience as a telecommunications and technology executive to the FirstNet Board. She served as President and CEO of business software provider Sage North America from 2008-2011. Ms. Swenson also served as COO of digital content company, New Motion/Atrinsic, mobile virtual network operator, Amp'd Mobile, and T-Mobile USA. She was also President and COO of Leap Wireless, International (Cricket Communications) from 1999-2004 and President and CEO of Cellular One from 1994-1999. Ms. Swenson serves on the board of Directors of Wells Fargo, Spirent Communications, Harmonic and Novatel Wireless. She also serves on the Dean's Advisory Board of the Paul Merage School of Business at the University of California, Irvine.

Andrew Thiessen – PSCR

Andrew Thiessen is the Lead for Public Safety Communication Requirements and Standards for the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS), in the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce. Mr. Thiessen's work at ITS is part of a joint effort between ITS and the NIST Communication Technology Laboratory (NIST/CTL) named the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program. Mr. Thiessen leads the standards development efforts for the PSCR, which includes working in such standards development organizations as 3GPP, ATIS, GMSA, representing public safety's communications requirements. Mr. Thiessen is the Project 25 Compliance Assessment Program (P25 CAP) Laboratory Program Manager. Mr. Thiessen is also the Vice-Chair of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) Technology Committee and chair of the NPSTC Broadband Working Group (700MHz). Mr. Thiessen has worked as a principal in several small start-ups, as a Senior Systems Engineer for Sun

Microsystems, an engineer for MITRE, and an engineer for the National Security Agency. Mr. Thiessen holds a Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering for Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), a Bachelor's degree in English, also from WPI, a Master's degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University, and an MBA from Duke University.

Daejung (DJ) Kim – MSIP, Rep. of Korea

Dr. DJ (Daejung) KIM is the chief director of Radio & Broadcasting department of Standardization Division, Telecommunications Technology Association (TTA). He coordinates TTA's standardization efforts in the field of mobile & wireless communication and broadcasting in domestic and worldwide standardization organizations such as ITU-R SGs, WRC, 3GPPs, IEEE 802.

He has been serving as the chairman of Technology Aspects WG of APT Wireless Group in Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. And he is now leading several projects such as LTE for Public Safety, IMT-2020 and IoT in Korea.

He was the recipient of "Korea Prime Minister Award" for excellent contributions in WiMAX standardization in 2008.

Gordon Shipley – UK Home Office

Gordon Shipley is a Director in the UK Home Office's Crime and Policing Group responsible for the Emergency Service Mobile Communications Programme, which seeks to procure a national voice and broadband data service for the police, fire, ambulance and other users.

With a technical background and experience in public procurement, he was previously the Olympic Delivery Authority's Head of Systems and Technology, responsible for system integration and information technology, and delivering the Olympic Park's security projects.

On commissioning from the Royal Military Academy, Gordon joined Royal Signals and served in a variety of signal units, airborne forces, and the infantry. He attended the Army Staff Course and was appointed to various staff and command appointments in UK and Northern Ireland, including the Ministry of Defence and the Procurement Executive. He attended the US Army War College before forming a joint C3I team at the British Embassy, Washington, reporting on US technical and operational capability. His final tour was as Chief of Staff at the UK Defence Academy. He is also a Non Executive Director at the National Records of Scotland in Edinburgh.

Joe Fournier – Centre for Security Science, Government of Canada

Joe has spent his entire 26 year career in the wireless domain working on product, system and network level research & development. He is currently a scientist at the Centre for Security Sciences (CSS) in Ottawa responsible for the Wireless Technology portfolio. Previous to this, Joe spent 13 years at the Communications Research Centre (CRC) in Industry Canada, most recently as the Research Program Manager for Wireless Network Design. While there, Joe was instrumental in supporting Industry Canada, many other government departments and the private sector with their wireless communication needs and challenges.

Previous to CRC, Joe held senior technical and management positions at a number of communication organizations including Intelcan, Newbridge Networks and Alcatel Networks. While at Alcatel, Joe was Associate Vice President of Broadband Wireless Systems. Notably, he has been involved with many turnkey wireless network designs and deployments in North and South America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Joe holds a BASc in Electrical Engineering from the University of Ottawa where he also studied Business.

Tracy McElvaney – PSCR

Joining PSCR in 2014, Tracy has added 19+ years of experience in cellular deployment and interoperability to the team. Tracy holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas in Arlington (UTA). During his career in Cellular Networks R&D, Tracy has been recognized with Outstanding Achievement Awards 4 times with major accomplishments in the areas of Interoperability, Outage Recovery improvements, Leader of the Advanced Communications Research Group within PSCR.

Brian Kassa – FirstNet

Brian brings over 20 years of telecommunications experience and 23 years of first responder experience in fire, emergency medical services, dispatch, search and Rescue and emergency management. Brian joined FirstNet from Nokia where he held various end-to-end architecture positions. In 2010 he focused on, as the Head of Technology for Public Safety Broadband, the market and activities that would eventually become FirstNet.

Barry Fraser – PSAC

Barry Fraser has served as General Manager for the San Francisco Bay Area Interoperable Regional Communications Systems Authority (BayRICS) since its start-up in August 2011. Barry is responsible for planning and coordination of regional public safety communications across seven Bay Area counties, including planning efforts for the FirstNet nationwide public safety broadband network in the Bay Area and California.

Barry represents the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) on the FirstNet Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). He serves as Chair of PSAC's Priority and Preemption task group, and also serves on PSAC's Public Safety Grade Infrastructure task group.

From 2007-2011, Barry worked for the City and County of San Francisco Department of Emergency Management and Department of Technology, where he advised city leadership on strategies to implement public safety broadband services. He worked for the County of San Diego from 1998-2007. Barry holds a M.A. degree in Radio and Television from San Diego State University and a J.D. degree from the University of San Diego School Of Law.

Barry also participates on working groups for the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), including NPSTC's Local Control and Quality of Service (QoS) work groups. He chairs NATOA's Public Safety Technology Committee and serves on the California First Responder Network Authority (CalFRN) Board of Directors.

Barry is also an active member of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officers, International (APCO) and a member of the California Bar.

Admiral Ron Hewitt, DHS OEC

Ronald T. Hewitt assumed the duties as Director of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications on November 13, 2012. In this role, Mr. Hewitt plays a critical role for ensuring continuous, interoperable communications that support the Federal Government's mission essential functions and all the Nation's emergency responders to keep America safe, secure and resilient.

Prior to becoming the OEC Director, Mr. Hewitt served for six months as the Director and Departments and Agencies responsible for National Security/Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) communications.

Before his arrival to the NCS, Rear Admiral Hewitt served as the U.S. Coast Guard's Assistant Commandant for Human Resources. Rear Admiral Hewitt's other career assignments include Project Manager for "Rescue 21," and the Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement (MISLE); Commanding Officer, Electronics Support Unit Boston; Executive Officer, Communications Area Master Station Pacific, Project Engineer at the Omega Navigation Systems Center, Electronics Engineering Center in Wildwood, New Jersey and Operations Officer on the USCGC BITTERSWEET.

Mr. Hewitt, a native of Oregon, is a 1978 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science Degree; as well as a 1982 graduate of Purdue University with a Master of Science Degree; both degrees in Electrical Engineering. In 2000, he received a Master's Certificate in Information Technology Project Management from The George Washington University and is a certified Project Management Professional.

John Merrill, DHS S&T

John Merrill currently serves as the Director for the Office for Interoperability and Compatibility at the DHS Science and Technology Directorate. He oversees first responder voice and data interoperability, information sharing, and alerts, warnings and notifications programs. His duties also include leading the Apex Next Generation First Responder program which seeks to seamlessly integrate wearable computing devices, voice and data connectivity and other information delivery tools into ruggedized gear that can be adapted for all response disciplines. He was formerly the senior policy/technical advisor for DHS on GPS interference, detection, mitigation and radio frequency spectrum management. He is a 28-year veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard with experience in program/policy management, radio navigation, maritime law enforcement, search and rescue, vessel traffic services and telecommunications. He holds Masters degrees in both Secure Information Systems Management and Systems Engineering, with undergraduate studies in Electrical Engineering.

Shawn McDonald, DHS S&T

Mr. McDonald is a Program Manager in the Borders and Maritime Security Division (BMD) within the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate

(S&T), Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA). He is currently leading the formulation and execution of the Border Situational Awareness Apex program.

Mr. McDonald spent the first 15 years of his career supporting the Naval Sea Systems Command as a senior systems engineer leading electro-optical, acoustic, and seismic sensor system research, development and integration projects in support of joint, interagency and international programs. His expertise includes both active and passive electro-optical sensor systems including the ultra-violet through visible, near infrared (IR), mid-wave IR and long-wave IR regions and spans knowledge of various optical systems including missile seekers, LADAR/LIDAR systems and maritime surveillance systems. He served as the lead Navy technical project officer to numerous international projects involving weapon systems, modeling and simulation and missile defense.

Prior to joining DHS S&T in 2014, Mr. McDonald served as the Program Manager for the Riverine and Intercoastal Operations (RIO) Joint Capability Technology Demonstration (JCTD) program that developed and fielded sensor technologies for jungle, riverine and inter-coastal environments that were ultimately fielded by US and partner nations around the world. In 2011 he received the JCTD Technical Manager of the year award by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the 2012 Navy Engineer of the year award for his efforts in this area.

Mr. McDonald graduated from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire with honors in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science in Physics, and graduated with honors in 1996 from the University of Dayton with a Masters of Science in Electro-Optical Engineering. He has been Defense Acquisition Workforce Level III certified since 2003 and is published in several technical proceedings, journals and conferences.

Kathleen Deloughrey, DHS S&T

Dr. Deloughery currently manages a number of research and development projects in a variety of social and behavioral science domains. Some of her current programs include: systematic assessments of major TSA security programs; an evaluation of the use of Rapid DNA technology; developing a nationally representative sampling frame of the first responder community; and the creation of a web-enhanced-portal that will serve as a virtual lab for surveys, questionnaires, and lab instruments for the federal workforce. She also is the lead for the Behavioral, Economic, and Social Science Engine (BESSE). The purpose of BESSE is to analyze the social and behavioral implications of new technologies, programs, and policies to support their research, implementation, and diffusion. Additionally, she is the Deputy Program Manager for the Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Portfolio at S&T.
Dr. Deloughery received her PhD in Economics from The Ohio State University in 2009. Her Dissertation was entitled A Cross Country Analysis of Terrorism and Government Policies. Her MA in Economics was conferred in 2005, and BS in Economics was conferred with honors by the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2004. She has worked as an Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Policy at the University at Albany, SUNY from 2009 through the present.

Cuong Luu, DHS S&T

Cuong Luu joined the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate in 2008 to serves as a Program Manager in the Office for Interoperability and Compatibility. Prior to joining DHS, he worked 10 years in private sector where he gains an extensive knowledge in applied program and project management. He has an educational background in networking and information technology management and holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering.

Stephen Dennis, DHS S&T

Stephen Dennis provides leadership and guidance to information analysis and critical infrastructure protection programs within the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA) of the Science & Technology (S&T) Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Mr. Dennis provides technical guidance for information analysis, collaboration and sharing related to Big Data research and development at DHS. Mr. Dennis also serves as the S&T APEX Program Manager for the Border Enforcement Analytics Program to improve utilization of DHS Big Data sources for ICE Homeland Security Investigations. He has over thirty years of experience managing research programs in information analysis and processing automation within the Intelligence Community and other federal agencies. Mr. Dennis holds a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Chris Redding, PSCR

Christopher Redding is an Electronics Engineer with the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS) where he has worked since 1990. He is currently working on the PSCR program where he has been involved in LTE testing to include test plan development, RF test and measurement, drive testing and data analysis. His past experience includes work in the areas of adaptive radio technology, IP applications over radio networks, cellular network discovery and LMR. Prior to joining ITS, he worked at the National Security Agency where he was involved with the development of tactical secure voice systems. Chris holds a BS in Electronics Engineering Technology from Kansas State University.

Camillo Gentile, PSCR

Camillo Gentile received the B.S. and M.S. degrees from Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA and the Ph.D. degree from the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, all in electrical engineering. He has been a researcher in the Advanced Network Technologies Division at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Gaithersburg, MD since 2001. His current interests include RF channel modeling, Smart Grid, LTE, and millimeter-wave telecommunications.

Donald Bradshaw, PSCR

Before joining PSCR, Don Bradshaw spent 12 years with the Department of Defense as an electronics, RF, and systems engineer. During that time, he performed research and analysis of current and emerging communications technologies for DoD programs. Don received a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and an MS in Electrical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Bill Shrier, State of Washington OCIO

Bill Schrier chairs the Washington State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) and serves as the primary point of contact for the FirstNet effort in the State. He evangelizes open government through efforts like data.wa.gov and data.seattle.gov. He works from the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) of Washington State government.

Schrier retired in May, 2012, after over 8 years serving as Chief Technology Officer (CTO) for the City of Seattle. He has previous experience as a manager of voice, public safety radio and data networking for the City of Seattle, and as a police patrol officer. Schrier is a retired officer in the United States Army Corps of Engineers and holds a Masters in Public Administration (M.P.A.) from the University of Washington Evans School.

Dharmesh Tyagi, Nokia Networks

Dharmesh Tyagi has been working in the wireless industry for last 18 years, where he has taken various management and engineering roles with major wireless companies. Over the course of his career, Dharmesh has been involved in the building of countrywide broadband networks for commercial carriers and DoD/Federal and Public Safety networks around the globe. Dharmesh in his current role at Nokia Networks is responsible for FirstNet PSBN initiative development and support.

Neal Fishman, IBM

Neal Fishman is the Program Director for Data Based Pathology within IBM's Analytics Business Unit and leads a group of architects worldwide for the Public Sector Team. Neal is the author of "Viral Data in SOA: An Enterprise Pandemic" and the coauthor of "Enterprise Architecture Using the Zachman Framework".

Andrew Weinert, MIT LL

Andrew Weinert is a member of the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Systems Group in the Homeland Protection and Air Traffic Control Division at MIT Lincoln Laboratory. In recent years he has worked with Public Safety and academia on programs to enable communication in disconnected and latent environments; and generate actionable intelligence from open-source and social media data. His master's thesis focused on optimization of aircraft avoidance systems using information theroetics and parallel processing techniques. Mr. Weinert joined the Laboratory in 2009 and has support program in Public Safety systems and collision avoidance for both manned and unmanned aircraft. Mr. Weinert received a MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Boston University and a BS in Security and Risk Analysis with minors in Information Science Technology for Aerospace Engineering and Natural Science from the Pennsylvania State University.

Richard (Dick) Tenney, DHS OEC

Dick Tenney is the Deputy Branch Chief for the Technical Assistance Branch of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications (OEC). In this role, he manages the delivery of OEC technical assistance to all 56 states and territories. Mr. Tenney has represented OEC at numerous communications planning workshops and OEC sponsored events.

Tim Runfola, DHS OEC

Mr. Runfola is a Program Analyst for the Next Generation Network (NGN) Priority Services for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC). In this role, he supports the deployment of the Wireless Priority Service in the NGN environment. His responsibilities include ensuring the continuity of services in the current and future technologies and overseeing the acquisition, governance, budget and outreach processes for the current Priority Telecommunications Services and NGN programs.

Prior to joining OEC, Mr. Runfola supported the Systems Engineering Life Cycle processes and Capital Planning and Investment Control for the DHS National Protection and Programs Division's Chief Information Office. Before entering the Federal Government, he spent several years in biomedical research in the fields of cancer biology and neurobiology.

Mr. Runfola received a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a concentration in Biotechnology from George Mason University. He has also received certification as a Level 1 DHS Program Manager for Acquisitions.

Andrew Catellier, NTIA ITS

Andrew Catellier works as an electronics engineer for the Theory division of the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS) in Boulder, Colorado. Mr. Catellier has worked for ITS since 2006 and conducts research concerning the delivered quality of audio, video, and multimedia streams, whether assessed by humans or objectively by machines, as well as research concerning speech coding. He also conducts speech intelligibility research for the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program. The PSCR program is a joint effort between the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Communication Technology Laboratory (CTL). PSCR serves as an objective technical advisor and laboratory for public safety practitioners to accelerate the adoption and implementation of the most critical public safety communication standards and technologies. Andrew earned a Bachelor's of Science and a Master's of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Wyoming.

Nada Golmie, PSCR

Nada Golmie received her Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Maryland at College Park. Since 1993, she has been a research engineer at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). She is currently the chief of the wireless networks division in the Communications Technology Laboratory. Her research in media access control and protocols for wireless networks led to over 100 technical papers presented at professional conferences, journals, and contributed to international standard organizations and industry led consortia. She is the author of "Coexistence in Wireless Networks: Challenges and System-level Solutions in the Unlicensed Bands," published by Cambridge University Press (2006). She is a member of the NIST Public Safety Communication Research program and leading the efforts on the simulation modeling and evaluation of LTE in support of public safety communications.

Richard Rouil, PSCR

Richard Rouil is a researcher working at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Telecom Bretagne, France (2009) that focused on mobility in heterogeneous networks. His main interests include modeling and

simulation of wireless networks such as LTE and WiMAX. His current research focuses on the performance evaluation of LTE to support the deployment of networks used by Public Safety.

Kent Rochford, NIST CTL

Kent Rochford is the Director of the Communications Technology Laboratory within the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Boulder, Colorado. In this role he also serves as co-director of the Center for Advanced Communications, a collaboration between NIST and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, both agencies of the US Department of Commerce. Kent was chief of NIST's Quantum Electronics and Photonics Division, and director of NIST's Electronics and Electrical Engineering Laboratory. Apart from NIST, Kent served as Senior Director for Sharp Laboratories of America's Material and Device Applications laboratories, and managed Systems R&D at YAFO Networks, a fiber optic communications start-up. Kent received his Ph.D. in Optical Sciences from the University of Arizona, a B.S. in Electrical Engineering at Arizona State University, and an MBA from the University of Colorado.

Todd Bohling, PSCR

Todd Bohling is currently a technical lead with the U.S. Department of Commerce NIST Communication Technology Laboratories working on broadband initiatives and supporting the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program. Mr. Bohling is the technical lead on a set of DHS projects that are related to LMR working with LTE. Mr. Bohling has over 30 years working in the field of wire line and wireless Telecommunications. He has worked at some of the largest telecommunication companies in the world, such as AT&T Bell Labs, Motorola, and Nokia Solutions Networks. Mr. Bohling has his Masters of Science in Computer Science from Illinois Institute of Technology and a Bachelor's of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology from DeVry University.

Barry Luke, NPSTC

Barry Luke is the Deputy Executive Director of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), a federal of sixteen public safety organizations and associations. In that role, he coordinates all first responder committee and working group activities; represents the organization at public hearings and before federal and international organizations; coordinates development of public safety requirements recommendations for the nationwide public safety broadband network; and facilitates public safety issue identification with the FCC, DHS, and other groups.

Chief Luke retired from the Orange County (FL) Fire Rescue Department after serving as a Division Chief and Deputy Chief. He has thirty-four years of progressively responsible work in public safety communications, with shared emphasis on operational and technical issues; including twenty years of management experience in various metropolitan consolidated public safety communication centers.

He has worked as a front line fire-fighter/paramedic, flight medic, and police officer which provides insight into public safety communications goals and objectives. He has extensive disaster management experience operating as a first responder, team leader and manager. These include a 1994 serial killer response, 1996 serial church arsonist response, 1998

Tornados, 1998 Florida Wildfires, 2000 Wildfires, and a set of back-to-back hurricanes in 2004 [Charlie, Frances, Jeanne and Ivan].

Chief Luke was awarded Life Member status with the International Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and also received the Communications Center of Year Award in 2005 from the Congressional 911 Caucus for his agency's handling of four hurricane disasters.

He is known for his excellent interpersonal skills and presentation style. He is nationally recognized as a speaker and presenter on public safety communications issues.

Steve Taylor, Intel Federal LLC

Steve Taylor, Solution Technologist, Intel Federal LLC. During his 9 years with Intel® Corporation, Mr. Taylor has worked in their consulting organization, Business Client Platform Division working on their vPro Technology brand, and Intel Federal where he focuses on developing client and mobile security solutions for customers. Prior to joining Intel, Mr. Taylor spent 14 years developing secure and scalable wireless networks with systems integrators.

David Gross, Global Wireless Technologies

David Gross has been with Global Wireless Technologies (GWT) for the past 8 years, most recently in the role of Director of Product Marketing. He has obtained an MBA and MA in Government Studies from Johns Hopkins University, and a Bachelors degree from SUNY Binghamton. He grew up in Northern New Jersey but please don't hold that against him if you are so inclined.

Christian Militeau, Intrado Inc

Mr. Militeau has more than 20 years of professional experience in the telecommunications industry. He started his career with Alcatel in France as a systems engineer. He was a telecommunications consultant at Telcordia Technologies. He joined Intrado in 2005 to lead systems engineering and standards development activities. The last few years he was instrumental in the development of NG9-1-1 and Wireless E9-1-1 standards for the public safety and telecommunications industries with leadership roles in ATIS and NENA. He has an Electrical Engineering Diploma from the University of Provence, Institute of Technology (France), and M.S. Telecommunications Engineering and a M.B.A from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Rich Reed, FirstNet

As Director of State Plans, Richard Reed is responsible for leading the planning team that will provide support to the nation's 56 states and territorial governments. Based on the output of state consultations, Mr. Reed's team will develop and deliver individual state plans to each governor for consideration, prior to implementing the National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN).

FirstNet is the first nationwide high-speed broadband network dedicated to the public safety community. It is designed to improve interoperable communications among federal, state, territorial, tribal and local agencies with the mission to save lives, protect our citizens

and their property. It will be built and operated using the most advanced wireless technology available. FirstNet fulfills the federally mandated requirement for a single, mission-critical, communications system for police, fire and other emergency services personnel.

Prior to joining FirstNet, Mr. Reed served the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) as the branch chief for Technical Assistance. There, he managed the Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP) along with the Modeling, Analysis and Continuity (MAC) Section, overseeing more than 100 project leads, engineers, software developers, and subject matter experts providing "no cost" consultations and services to public safety agencies across the nation.
Mr. Reed is an experienced communicator. He brings more than 25 years of senior-level experience in advanced communications, and has an extensive background in Land Mobile Radio (LMR) and Satellite Communications (SATCOM) installation, maintenance and repair. During his time on Navy active duty, Mr. Reed experienced a uniquely diverse career, serving both sea and shore rotations as a search and rescue swimmer, and traveling with the presidential and vice presidential advance teams of the White House Communications Agency (WHCA).

Mr. Reed is retired from the U.S Naval Reserve Intelligence Program. He obtained a B.S. in Management with a minor in Criminal Justice and Electronics Technology. He has extensive training in program management for voice and data communications and intelligence collection efforts.

James Mitchell, FirstNet

James Mitchell joined FirstNet in July of 2014 as the Senior Program Manager for Operations in the Program Management Office (PMO). James has spent the better part of the year building out the PMO's staff and various functions, working to establish a strong culture of program management across FirstNet. In February, James took over the development of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network acquisition, managing a team of mixed disciplines between Boulder and Reston to release a Request for Proposals by the end of calendar year 2015. James came to FirstNet after 8 years with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), where he served first as a contractor with Booz Allen supporting grants policy and legislative affairs, then as the lead Program Manager for Program Development and Information Management for FEMA's grant programs, working with members of public safety at all levels to ensure that FEMA's core constituency's needs were addressed across its financial assistance portfolio. After several years in the grants field, James went to support FEMA's Chief Procurement Officer as the Executive Officer, managing day to day operations for $1.5 billion in both disaster response and steady state contracting activities. Prior to his service with FEMA, James worked for the Florida Association of Community Health Centers, assisting in the establishment of emergency management training for medical professionals serving Florida's most vulnerable communities. James holds a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Florida State University.

Brian Hobson, FirstNet

Brian Hobson joined the FirstNet team as the technical lead for State Plan development. In this role supporting the Director of State Plans, he works closely with FirstNet's finance and technical teams to coordinate necessary activities in support of the consultation process and state plan development. Additionally, Brian has supported many of the Initial Consultation meetings held to date. Before working at FirstNet, Brian spent 15 years working on several different wireless communications and networking projects at SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific (Dept. of Navy). Most recently, Brian served as the Chief Engineer leading broadband activities and software tool development for the Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP) sponsored by the DHS Office of Emergency Communications (OEC). In the 10 years supporting ICTAP, Brian had the great opportunity to work with public safety across the country on interoperable communications.

Karla Jurrens, Texas SWIC

Karla Jurrens is the Deputy Statewide Interoperability Coordinator with the Texas Department of Public Safety. She has been involved in the operational and technical aspects of communications for over 30 years, and was first introduced to communications while earning her B.S. in Engineering Technology degree from Kansas State University in 1981. Ms. Jurrens began working with law enforcement after joining the Sheriffs' Association of Texas in 2006 and has assisted agencies across the state with technical issues, and supported the statewide efforts for Regional communications planning.. She is a certified Project Management Professional, and an Amateur Radio Extra Class Operator, N5KUR.

Nelson Hastings, PSCR

Nelson Hastings is a member of the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program team organizing and leading their security research and testing efforts. Located in Gaithersburg, he has been part of the Computer Security Division in the Information Technology Laboratory at NIST for the past 15 years. Before joining the PSCR efforts, he was the Technical Lead of the NIST Voting Program while leading the program's computer security efforts. He also co-chaired the Cyber Security Working Group's Testing and Certification sub-group of the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel. In addition, he has worked in the areas of public key infrastructure and the cryptographic module validation (FIPS 140-2) program.

Dr. Hastings received his Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from Iowa State University, M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Western Michigan University, and B.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Josh Franklin, PSCR

Joshua is an IT Specialist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) focusing on public safety and electronic voting security. Prior to NIST, Joshua worked at the U.S. Election Assistance Commission gathering extensive experience with voting technologies. After graduating from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelors of Science in Information Systems, he received a Masters of Science in Information Security and Assurance from George Mason University.

Jeff Cichonski, PSCR

Jeff Cichonski is an Information Technology Specialist working with a broad array of technologies at the National Institute of Standards and Technology; working in the Computer Security Division under the umbrella of the Information Technology Laboratory. One of his current areas of focus is LTE network security, with a specific interest in security for public safety LTE Implementations. Other areas of interests include virtualization, derived credential research, and cyber physical systems. He has a Bachelor of Science In Information Science and Technology from the Pennsylvania State University.

Michael Ogata, PSCR

Michael Ogata has worked for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) since 2005. During his tenure he has focused in digital forensics, specializing in mobile application forensics. Recently he has been supporting the Public Safety Communications Research effort at NIST and with APCO in their work to refine requirements for mobile applications for first responders. Michael has a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Chris Walton, PSCR

Christopher Walton transitioned to PSCR from private industry in December of 2014. Early in his career with international telecom vendors, Mr. Walton worked in system test teams. In the most recent phases of his career, Mr. Walton led the deployments of 2G, 3G and LTE wireless technologies in both domestic and international markets. Mr. Walton holds a Bachelor's of Science in Electrical Engineering (1989) from the University of Texas at Arlington. After working for the United States Army Information Systems Engineering Command for four years, he returned to University of Texas at Arlington to obtain a Master's of Science in Electrical Engineering (1996).