CTL / PSCR has done a great job in the 5 research areas. Does NIST CTL & ITL work together on cybersecurity?

Cybersecurity is an area which will affect every aspect of public safety communications. With roots in NIST's Informational Technology Laboratory (ITL), the Security Portfolio at PCSR leverages the expertise of ITL while focusing on the critical needs for trust in public safety communications technologies. To move from traditional security research into innovation, the Security Portfolio funds public safety security projects at the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE), where partnering with vendors offering commercial off-the-shelf products makes application and testing of innovative solutions possible. Investment in ITL and NCCoE enables the development of innovative solutions that could be rapidly replicated by public safety and government while enhancing the knowledge of public safety stakeholders on important security topics.

When will the program that supports PSCR-funded tech commercialization be released?

PSCR announces all of its challenges and funding opportunities on the PSCR website and through its newsletter, so we recommend signing up for any announcements here: https://www.nist.gov/get-connected. Additionally, all of PSCR's and other federal government challenges are posted on www.challenge.gov and any federal grant funding opportunities are posted on www.grants.gov. More information will be available soon about NIST PSCR's precommercialization programs, such as the timeframe, duration and eligibility requirements, on our website: https://www.nist.gov/ctl/pscr.

How many total researchers have participated in PSCR meetings / initiatives? Particularly, those who are not affiliated with traditional public-safety vendors (Moto, L3Harris, etc.)?

While we cannot report the precise number of individuals contributing to PSIAP research projects, we do know that of the 167 institutions funded through the PSIAP program, only a handful are "traditional" public safety players. In fact, most PSCR-funded researchers are new to public safety. For example, about 90% of the researchers funded through the LBS portfolio are new to public safety, having never worked in this research area before.

In reference to LBS (Location-based services); NG 9-1-1 (Next Generation 9-1-1), how can we participate in any related program? Do you have any funding and/or challenges for the Z-Axis?

You can always find portfolio-specific information about funding opportunities and ongoing research by visiting our website: pscr.gov.

Within a Smart City, Smart Public Safety plays a significant foundational role. Does PSCR have any interest in this area of Smart Public Research?

Many of PSCR's research portfolios are related to issues involving smart cities, including: location-based services, cybersecurity, UI/UX, and analytics. In addition, smart city technologies play a central role in some of our current and upcoming prize challenges, including the CHARIOT Challenge that was discussed during the webinar, and an upcoming series of drone challenges.