

FCC UPDATE

SNC Emerging Technology Subcommittee

Spring Forum

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REPORTS TO CONGRESS

- ◉ Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act that was enacted February of 2012 contained the Next Generation 911 Advancement Act.
- ◉ The NG911 Act required key reports to Congress:
 - ▣ Government Accountability Office (GAO) study on use of 911 funds by state and local governments
 - ▣ National 911 Implementation and Coordination Office (ICO) study on detailed costs specific to NG911 nationwide
 - ▣ FCC report on Legal and Regulatory Framework for NG911
- ◉ The FCC's report on Legal and Regulatory Framework issued February 22, 2012.

FCC REPORT TO CONGRESS

- ◎ NG911 will require “governmental action and coordination among the myriad of federal agencies and state, regional, tribal, and local authorities responsible for oversight and management of different components of the 911 system.”
- ◎ Many of the current state and federal regulations that affect 911 were in place long before the technical advancements that are driving NG911 were in use.
 - ❑ IP-based call transport
 - ❑ Pictures
 - ❑ Video
 - ❑ Text
 - ❑ Consumer mobility
- ◎ These legacy regulations can hamper NG911

FCC RECOMMENDATIONS

◎ Three areas of focus:

- 1) To facilitate movement towards updated legal and regulatory changes at the state level, the FCC recommends that Congress create incentives for states to become early adopters of NG911.

Congress should:

- ❑ Promote consistent nationwide approach to key elements of NG911
- ❑ Encourage state-level governance of NG911 deployment
- ❑ Create standards that support seamless communications between PSAPs, and between PSAPs and emergency responders

- 2) Development of location technologies that will support all NG911 applications:

- ❑ Encourage state-level governance of NG911 deployment
- ❑ National level of certain databases for NG911 routing and security
- ❑ Economies of scale to reduce transition costs for state and local governments

FCC RECOMMENDATIONS

◎ Three areas of focus (continued):

3) Role of Congress in assisting the elimination of states' legacy regulation that hinders NG911 deployment:

- ❑ Provide incentives for states to update their laws and regulations
- ❑ Allow for non-traditional service providers to support NG911 applications
- ❑ Facilitate creation of more flexible and resilient networks

FCC RECOMMENDATIONS

◎ Report Recommendations Summary

□ State and local governance of NG911:

- Congress should create mechanisms such as challenge grants and other competitive funding programs to incentivize states to become “early adopters.”
- State and local authorities should retain the responsibility of deployment and configuration of NG911 and 911 services, but Congress should encourage the states to provide technical and operational expertise for NG911.

□ Federal Role in Transition to NG911

- Congress should facilitate the authority over NG911 by federal agencies such as the FCC, ICO, NHTSA, NTIA, and DHS to enable them to coordinate with each other to effectively aid in NG911 efforts.
- When states lack the authority to regulate NG911 (or choose to not exercise authority to do so), Congress should consider enacting backstop federal regulation so there is no gap in regulation.

FCC RECOMMENDATIONS

◎ Report Recommendations Summary (cont....)

□ Deployment and Interconnection of ESInets

- Congress should encourage the early deployment of state and regional ESInets.
 - FCC wants to see “lessons learned” info shared with other states.

□ Congress should encourage or require the use of a common set of standards for the transmission of information between ESInets and other public safety networks, including FirstNet.

□ Congress should encourage the development of consolidated regional NG911 call centers where possible.

- Consideration could be offering preference for grant eligibility to states and regions that progress to this goal.

□ Ensuring Security of NG911 Systems

- Congress should consider ways to set compliance to security standards and best practices by establishing and funding a national PSAP credentialing authority.

FCC RECOMMENDATIONS

◎ Report Recommendations Summary (cont....)

□ Updating funding mechanisms for NG911

- Congress should incentivize states to broaden the base of contributors to NG911 to be more aligned to the benefits derived from the users of NG911.
- Congress should encourage states' funding mechanisms to provide support for NG911 as well as legacy 911.
- Grants (and other appropriate federal benefits) should be conditioned on the collection of 911 funds being used for 911 services.

□ Liability protection for NG911 stakeholders

- Federal law that imposes or facilitates voluntary NG911 implementation should include liability protections.
- Incentives should be available to states that revise their liability provisions to provide appropriate liability protections for providing or supporting NG911 services that meet standardized guidelines.

FCC RECOMMENDATIONS

◎ Report Recommendations Summary (cont....)

□ Access to NG911 to people with disabilities

- Communication laws should be updated to ensure that people with disabilities can fully access NG911.
- Congress should support an ongoing body to explore ways that emerging technologies can be used to improve communication between people with disabilities and emergency services.
- There needs to be heightened coordination between the FCC and the US DOJ on regulation and outreach efforts to make sure emergency services can be accessed by people with disabilities.

□ Tools for tracking NG911 progress

- Enhancements to the National PSAP Registry and 911 Profile Database for collection, tracking, and sharing information about NG911 deployments.
- Incentives should be offered to states and PSAPs to provide data for national sharing of information.
- Web-based filing mechanisms for ease of participation should be developed.

FCC RECOMMENDATIONS

◎ Report Recommendations Summary (cont....)

□ Removing regulatory barriers on inconsistent legacy regulations

- Congress should encourage states to adopt expanded and uniform definitions for parties qualifying as 911 service providers.
- States should be encouraged by Congress to change legacy routing regulations in favor of routing that is technology-neutral.

□ Development of accurate location information technologies

- Standards should not be set by Congress, but provide incentives for improved location technology.
- All network access providers should be required to support NG911 locations using technically feasible and commercially reasonable means.
- Neutral third-party testing requirements for location technology should be supported by Congress.

□ National NG911 database components to support call routing and secure caller information should be considered through funding and supporting the national NG911 “Forest Guide” as proposed by NENA.

QUESTIONS?

*This presentation and the FCC
recommendations will be posted on the
SNC Web site.*