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National Emergency
Number Association



Association Recognizes Improvements in 9-1-1 Technology

Key Congressional leaders made 9-1-1 improvements possible

COLUMBUS, Ohio (November 1, 2000)—In the first full year after the passage of the Public Safety and Wireless Communications Act of 1999 (US Senate Bill 800), there has been significant advancement in 9-1-1 planning and wireless 9-1-1 implementation throughout the United States.

The National Emergency Number Association (NENA) recognizes that this is due in part to the support Montana Senator Conrad Burns and his esteemed colleagues in Congress gave to this important legislation.

“This landmark legislation benefits the whole of public safety and the American people by making 9-1-1 the official emergency telephone number in the Nation,” said Norman H. Forshee, NENA President. “This legislation extended indemnity protection to wireless service providers and 9-1-1 centers, which has allowed location technology advances for America’s 100 million wireless subscribers.”

The Law spurred considerable awareness and momentum in the area of wireless location over the course of the past year. Implementing this important component of the end-to-end 9-1-1 system in America has become a priority for the U.S. and our local 9-1-1 systems.

“The passage of Senate Bill 800 represented a vast step forward for the safety and security of the American public,” said Forshee. “We know that all callers to 9-1-1—wireless included—will have the full benefits of 9-1-1 service.”

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NENA is the only organization dedicated solely to the promotion and implementation of 9-1-1 as America’s universal emergency number. NENA’s mission is to foster the development and implementation of 9-1-1 as a universal emergency number. NENA has 7,000 members, most of whom manage the 4,300 primary 9-1-1 centers that answer and process 9-1-1 calls. As a part of its mission, NENA also develops recommended standards and protocol for 9-1-1 services. NENA’s international headquarters is located in Columbus, Ohio.