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## National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Honors Colorado Senator Wayne Allard

Independent 9-1-1 Commission Recognizes Allard's Ongoing Advocacy of 9-1-1 Technology Advancements and U.S. Resident Safety

CENTENNIAL, Colorado (October 25, 2002)— The National Emergency Number Association (NENA), a non-profit organization solely dedicated to education, research and standards for 9-1-1, today will honor U.S. Senator Wayne Allard for his dedication to public safety issues and his support of advanced 9-1-1 technologies.

Recently, Allard played a critical role in securing federal funding for a demonstration project in Denver to integrate automobile automatic crash notification information with call centers and emergency responders. This integration has the potential to make emergency response more efficient and effective, helping to save lives in the event of a car accident.

Allard is also being recognized for his participation in the development of the *Wireless Communications* and *Public Safety Act of 1999*. A blueprint for 21<sup>st</sup> Century 9-1-1 planning, this landmark legislation made "9-1-1" the universal emergency number and emphasized the need for full wireless coverage in America.

"Senator Allard has been a staunch supporter of public safety initiatives," said John Melcher, president, NENA. "His co-sponsorship of the NENA's Report Card to the Nation (RCN), the first-ever comprehensive study assessing the current and future state of 9-1-1 services in America, helped uncover the lack of 9-1-1 services in rural communities and has made these areas safer places to live."

The award ceremony will take place in Centennial, Colorado and Mr. Melcher will present the award.

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A not-for-profit corporation, the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) is the only educational organization dedicated solely to the study, advancement and implementation of 9-1-1 as America's universal emergency number. With the participation of a wide variety of stakeholders

and public safety entities, NENA has an individual membership of more than 7,000 public safety executives, and is organized into 48 chapters. The organization strives to provide an effective and accessible 9-1-1 service for North America, measuring its success in the lives saved by 9-1-1 each day. NENA also develops recommended operating standards and protocol for 9-1-1 services from its headquarters in Columbus, Ohio. Learn more at <a href="https://www.nena.org">www.nena.org</a>.