

FirstNet begins federal consultation

Fierce Mobile Government By Molly Bernhart Walker

January 28, 2015

The First Responder Network Authority, the board tasked with overseeing the development of a nationwide, wireless broadband public safety network, continued its consultation process by reaching out to federal agencies last week.

The FirstNet board, which is currently in its [first phase of state consultations](#) , formally initiated the federal consultations with a "kick off" meeting Jan. 21 in Washington, D.C.

Chris Algieri, FirstNet's federal outreach branch chief, said the meeting was an important next step in planning the network.

"The main objectives of the meeting were to enhance federal agencies' understanding of FirstNet's consultation process and to discuss future outreach and engagement between FirstNet and its federal partners," [wrote](#) Algieri in a Jan. 22 blog post.

According to Algieri, FirstNet Acting Executive Director TJ Kennedy encouraged the federal agencies to be proactive in communicating their mission and wireless broadband needs to FirstNet.

The board emphasized that the meeting is simply the beginning of the consultation. The meeting was intended to prepare agencies for the consultation process, and agencies will soon receive an initial consultation checklist, similar to the one used by states and territories.

"Using the information gained from the checklist, FirstNet will schedule one-one-one meetings with the agencies in the coming months to begin discussing their needs and requirements for the network," said Algieri.

[Link to Article](#)

[Link to Fierce News Articles](#)