Featured Speakers

The following subject matter experts come from a wide range of backgrounds and industries. Their knowledge will help to advance that state of interoperable communications for public safety interoperability.

Federated ICAM

Matt Moyer is a Senior Research Scientist at the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI), the non-profit applied research division of the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA. For the past 17 years, his work has focused on Federated ICAM in support of trusted information sharing for the public safety community. Since 2013, he has led the development, maturation, and piloting of the trustmark framework, which is a novel approach for managing trusted information sharing relationships within the public safety community and other large, diverse communities.

Eric Baker has been with the Texas Department of Public Safety for over ten years and has held multiple roles within the Texas Fusion Center, Border Security Operations Center, Intelligence and Counterterrorism Division, and the Public Safety Solutions Center. Currently, he serves as a Systems Analyst in the Public Safety Solutions Center looking for new and innovative solutions for the public safety sector. He earned his Master’s Degree in Homeland Security from the Naval Postgraduate School and a Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin.

Sam Dibrell, Jr. is the CEO for Foundation for Trusted Identity. Sam leads the non-profit corporation in developing processes and applications which tie seamlessly into both emergency operations and corporate environments. He has worked extensively with colleagues across the country to design and roll out smart card based logical and physical access control projects and drive adoption of PIV-I. Sam’s Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) knowledge and experience was instrumental in standing up the Public Key Infrastructure that is cross-certified to the Federal Bridge which enables Foundation for Trusted Identity to offer low-cost, easily implemented, and highly available PIV-I cards.
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Federated ICAM

Gabriel Martinez
DHS CISA

Mr. Gabriel Martinez is currently assigned to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Emergency Communications Division. Mr. Martinez serves as senior technical staff under the Advanced Interoperable Technologies Branch, which focuses on public safety emergency communications technologies, interoperability, resiliency, AI, and cyber security. Currently Mr. Martinez is working on Cybersecurity, Interoperability, and Research and Development projects such as Computer Aid Dispatch (CAD)-to-CAD, Identity, Credential and Access Management to support for trusted information sharing, Emergency Cybersecurity Communications Centers (EC3) initiative, AI strategy for Emergency Communications, 5G evolution, and emerging cloud communications.
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Keynote Address

Billy Brown
DHS CISA

Billy serves as the Executive Assistant Director for Emergency Communications within the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. In this capacity, he drives cross-divisional synergy as identified in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Act of 2018. He has served in various senior leadership positions and supporting staff positions within the Emergency Communications Division since joining the Department of Homeland Security in 2008. Previously, he served as an Operations Analyst with General Dynamics Information Technology and as a career military officer in the United State Marine Corps in various Infantry Officer assignments including world-wide operational experience ranging from the Infantry Platoon to the Marine Expeditionary Force.

American Red Cross: Data Sharing in Disaster Services

Anjuli Renold
American Red Cross

Photo coming soon!

Biography coming soon!
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How UAS Operations Might Be Improved With Reliable Wireless Communication

Robin Roberson Murphy is the Raytheon Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at Texas A&M, directs the Center for Robot-Assisted Search and Rescue and is an IEEE Fellow. Her research interests are artificial intelligence, human-robot interaction, and heterogeneous teams of robots and she has over 100 publications including the best selling textbook, Introduction to AI Robotics (MIT Press 2000). She is a founder of the fields of rescue robots and human-robot interaction. In 2008, she was awarded the Al Aube Outstanding Contributor award by the AUVSI Foundation, for her insertion of ground, air, and sea robots for urban search and rescue at eleven disasters, including the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster and Hurricanes Katrina and Charley.

Matthew works as part of the Global Shared Services organization supporting Global Network Operations & Assurance in the Strategic Initiatives PMO team. His role includes responsibilities for managing sustainability and business continuity planning, satellite backhaul for radio access network solutions, and unmanned aircraft (drone) management. Matthew's team supports disaster and event response, and they are responsible for satellite network performance for wireless, configurations, and the implementation of new solutions. His team trials and implements new solutions for the network in the drone space and are heavily involved in disaster and emergency management coordination for portable assets and the intake and addressing of Verizon Response Team requests from government agencies augmented services.

Travis is the User Experience Domain Lead within the FirstNet Roadmap Development Division and within that role is focused on the development and utilization of devices and applications for public safety. Prior to working at the First Responder Network Authority, Travis spent over fifteen years as an engineer in the aerospace industry with companies including Northrop Grumman, General Atomics, and Raytheon. Travis lives in Washington State and is a canine handler with the Kitsap County Search Dog team and also a member of the SAR dive unit.
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SAFECOM Information Sharing Framework: An Introduction

Rob serves as the Senior Technologist Advisor for Emergency Communications within the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency since July 2018. In this capacity, he provides overall technical advisement on design, development, testing, and deployment of priority and interoperability of Next Generation Network Priority Services, Wireless Priority Service, Long Term Evolution transition to 5G, secure data exchange and Internet-of-Things capabilities for emergency communications stakeholders. Previous to this assignment, he served as a Wireless Broadband Subject Matter Expert and Electronics Engineer in the Office of Emergency Communications providing engineering and managerial leadership, governance and policy, consultation, and expertise to emergency communications.

CAD to CAD Interoperability

Mr. David Nolan is currently assigned to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Emergency Communications Division (ECD). Mr. Nolan serves as a communications engineer and is assigned as the Chief for the Advanced Interoperable Technologies Branch of ECD where he focuses on public safety communications interoperability, resiliency and cyber security. Recently at DHS he has been involved in developing Cellular wireless systems for the Federal Government in support of National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) Communications and Public Safety. He supports the CISA 5G campaign and he frequently interfaces with organizations across the country involved in Homeland Defense, Homeland Security, and Public Safety.

Emerging Technologies in Public Safety

Mike is a Principal Architect for AT&T’s Mission Critical Solutions Team, providing solution insight and direct support to Public Safety professionals for LMR, Interoperability and broadband communications needs. Prior to joining AT&T, Mike provided leadership and technical insight at Motorola, General Dynamics and at the State of Texas during the formative years of FirstNet, developing strategies, position papers, education programs and plans for state and local stakeholders, preparing the way for FirstNet in the state. His experience of innovation has provided solutions in Public Safety, Homeland Security, defense, intelligence, and diplomatic communications.
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Information Sharing Framework

Karla Jurrens, an employee of the Texas Department of Public Safety since 2009 is the Texas Statewide Interoperability Coordinator. She has assisted agencies across the state with technical issues and supported the statewide efforts for communications planning. She has been involved with the Texas Public Safety Broadband Network and FirstNet efforts since 2010. She is a certified Project Management Professional, and a Certified Engineering Technologist. Karla is an Amateur Radio Extra Class Operator, KB5KJ.

John M. Contestabile is the Director of Public Safety Solutions at Skyline Technology Solutions. He works closely with the public safety community providing consulting services and developing solutions to meet their operational needs. He joined Skyline in 2019 after 10 years with Johns Hopkins University where he was the Program Manager for Homeland Security/Emergency Response Systems. In that capacity he worked with various government sponsors to develop technology projects to meet their needs related to: transportation security, critical infrastructure resilience, and interoperable communications.

Dr. Magnussen has been the director since it’s inception in 2004. In this time he has received funding from Department of Homeland Security, Department of Transportation, Department of Justice, NIST, State of Texas and industry. He currently serves on two committees for the DHS Safecom Advisory Panel, has served on several FCC Committees and task forces, has served on APCO and NENA Committees and task forces and has testified before the United States House of Representatives on NG 9-1-1 funding. He is also currently serving as an advisor to the CBRS alliance and several public safety firms.
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**Keynote Address**

Mr. Phil La Perla is the Strategic Advisor to the Executive, Cyberspace Operations Directorate, Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). The Cyberspace Operations Directorate is an organization of over 2,600 personnel located at 53 locations in 8 countries, coordinating, synchronizing and directing the delivery and operation of agency enterprise information capabilities. Additionally, he serves as the Director of the Office of Global Public Safety Communications. Prior to his civil service, Mr. La Perla was an Assistant Vice President at SAIC supporting DISA.

**Keynote Address**

(Primary Safety Communications Interoperability between DOD Installations and the Community)

Adm. David Simpson
Virginia Tech

*Photo coming soon!*

*Biography coming soon!*
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Public Safety Messaging

Thomas Randall
FirstNet Authority

Thomas Randall spent his career in Law Enforcement, serving the Brazos and Burleson County Sheriff’s Offices for 37 years. As the Brazos County Sheriff’s Office Special Services Lieutenant, Randall was responsible for implementing in vehicle technology, including digital video, wearable body cameras, and deployed Band 14 equipment as a part of the Harris County Early Builder Project. After spending two years with the Texas Department of Public Safety working on the Public Safety Broadband Program, Lt. Randall joined the First Responder Network Authority as the Senior Public Safety Advisor for Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arkansas, where he is responsible for advocating stakeholder interests in FirstNet.

Jeff Newbold
Texas Division of Emergency Management

Jeff Newbold is the Chief Technology Officer for TDEM, overseeing the technology of the agency, enterprise architecture and leading Operations Technology efforts for deployment and solutions including Geospatial Information, Critical Information Systems Management, Communications, and traditional Information Technology direction and support. He has supported as a part of Response and Recovery all incidents at the state level since joining TDEM in 2013 and before that all incidents since 2005 as a part of the Alamo Regional Command Center in San Antonio.

Niki Papazoglakis
Bridge 4 Public Safety

Niki Papazoglakis is the Founder and CEO of Mobility 4 Public Safety, makers of the Bridge 4 Public Safety collaboration app. Throughout her career, Niki has led numerous projects that have helped advance the state of public safety communications and IT nationally including the first regional broadband requirements gathering project which DHS incorporated into its best practices guidance, the first all-digital PSAP for wireless callers, and the first large-scale operational deployment of PSLTE for Super Bowl LI in Houston which set a standard for the utilization of mobile broadband technologies through interoperability and information sharing.
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Public Safety Messaging

Red Grasso
North Carolina DIT

Red Grasso is the Director of the First Responder Emerging Technologies (FirstTech) Program at the State of North Carolina. After serving in AmeriCorps, he spent a decade as a firefighter in North Carolina before moving into the technologies and working to deploy a regional P25 radio system in Missouri. Focusing on public safety communications, he has served in many roles at different levels of government including disaster response at the local, state, and federal levels. Red is also responsible for the communications system at the annual Burning Man event in Nevada.
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NG 911 Interconnection with PSBN

**Walt Magnussen**  
*Texas A&M ITEC*

Dr. Magnussen has been the director since it’s inception in 2004. In this time he has received funding from Department of Homeland Security, Department of Transportation, Department of Justice, NIST, State of Texas and industry. He currently serves on two committees for the DHS Safecom Advisory Panel, has served on several FCC Committees and task forces, has served on APCO and NENA Committees and task forces and has testified before the United States House of Representatives on NG 9-1-1 funding. He is also currently serving as an advisor to the CBRS alliance and several public safety firms.

**Brandon Abley**  
*NENA*

Brandon Abley is Director of Technology for NENA: The 9-1-1 Association. He works with a community of experts in the development of NENA technical standards and advises, educates and advocates on technical issues for the emergency calling community. He represents the U.S., public safety and 9-1-1 with a variety of standards development and advocacy bodies, including ATIS, ETSI, IETF and EENA. He also worked in the public safety communications field as a technology consultant, served as a senior public safety communications official for the state of Minnesota, and was a telecommunications specialist for the US National Park Service.

**James Kinney**  
*INdigital*

With a passion for technology and science and a vast experience in telecommunications product development, James Kinney, Chief Innovation Officer for INdigital has a goal to bring all aspects of Public Safety to a modern technology level. Now with over a decade at INdigital, joining as a Senior Development Engineer in 2009, wherein that time INdigital has built, grown, and continues to operate some of the most innovative Public Safety networks and support systems in North America.
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Mission Critical Push to Talk (MCPTT)

Fidel Liberal
University of the Basque Country

Dr. Fidel Liberal works as professor and principal investigator of the NQAS research group in the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) where he leads different mission critical communications and 5G-related R&D projects. He is the coordinator of the Mission Critical Open Platform (MCOP) and leads the MCS TaaSing project, aimed at providing flexible testing as a service mechanism for MCS certification. Fidel has served as technical expert in NG112 and all MCX Plugtests, interoperability events organized by ETSI.

Bob Escalle
Nemergent

Robert Escalle is Chief Business Development Officer for Nemergent-Solutions, responsible for the North America market segment. Prior to joining Nemergent, he was Head of Product for Mobile B2B at Samsung Electronics America. Prior to Samsung, he served as Sonim Technologies Vice President, responsible for the Public Safety and Defense market segments. He has more than 30-years of experience in business development in the US, European and Asian markets and has held key roles in companies like AT&T, Motorola Solutions, L3Harris, Texas Instruments, Airbus, QuantM Voice, Lucent Technologies, and Globespan Semiconductor. Mr. Escalle has extensive experience in telecommunications and has been a frequent speaker at major conferences, particularly in areas of LTE broadband and mission-critical solutions for first responders.

Tony Dolezai
Verizon

Tony Dolezai is a Public Sector 5G and Public Safety subject matter expert in the Verizon Business Group’s Public Sector Field Marketing organization, and also leads Verizon’s efforts and support for the ITEC Public Safety Interoperable Communications applied research initiative. Mr. Dolezal formed his own consultancy, TAD Consultants, Inc., specializing in Latin American telecommunications. In 2011 Mr. Dolezal was recruited to Verizon to establish a Public Safety Professional Services practice based on his previous experiences.