



PRESS RELEASE
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Public Safety Leadership Meets to Discuss Next Generation 911

Washington, D.C.—On Friday, March 13th, the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA) and the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) co-hosted a meeting in Washington, D.C. of 12 major public safety organizations including: The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), National Sheriffs Association (NSA), Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association (MFCA), Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO), Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, International (APCO), National Emergency Number Association (NENA), and the National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASN).

The purpose of this meeting was to develop consensus on the need for a collaborative effort to design, implement, fund, and advocate for a nationwide upgrade to our critical 911 infrastructure.

During the meeting, the group moved towards a consensus position on critical elements that should be included in the NG 911 infrastructure platform. In addition, all of the organizations acknowledged the need to move quickly so that Congress can act to fund this nationwide priority.

“I want to thank the Major Cities Chiefs Association for co-hosting this important discussion,” said Major County Sheriffs of America President Peter J. Koutoujian. “We look forward to working with our public safety partners to ensure an upgraded 911 infrastructure meets the needs of our agencies and communities and the demands of a modern society.”

MCSA Vice President – Government Affairs Sheriff Mike Bouchard said after the meeting, “It was important to bring the broader voices of public safety leadership together into the NG 911 discussion. The dialogue was very productive and I am pleased we agreed to move forward together on critical issues. There is more work to be done, but we have the right people at the table to complete the task at hand.”

IAFC Past President Chief Jeff Johnson commented on the outcome of the meeting saying, “The group agreed on a number of principles for legislation to modernize our nation’s 911 infrastructure and the needed funding mechanisms to achieve this goal.”

Each organization has identified policy and technical experts that will serve as a working group reporting back to the Public Safety Leadership Group. The working group will interact regularly in the coming months and bring recommendations back to the Leadership Group for approval.

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