



Ohio 9-1-1 Newsletter

October 2016

Ohio 9-1-1 Symposium

The Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office hosted the First Annual Ohio 9-1-1 Symposium on Sept. 14. The event was held at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy. Opening remarks were made by Stu Davis, assistant director of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services and the State of Ohio's chief information officer, and John Born, director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

The first presentation of the day was given by local sportscaster Dom Tiberi. In 2013, Tiberi's daughter Maria was killed in an automobile crash that was attributed to distracted driving. Since then, Tiberi and his family, with the help of his colleagues at WBNS 10TV, launched a campaign called "Maria's Message" to help educate the public about the dangers of distracted driving. He gave a version of this presentation specifically tailored to first responders at the symposium, praising first responders for the work they do and their dedication to public safety.

Co-hosting the event were the Ohio chapters of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), who held their third quarter business meeting at the symposium.

Next, Rob Jackson, Ohio 9-1-1 Administrator, gave an update on a variety of topics related to the activities of the 9-1-1 Program Office. Included in this portion was a brief introduction of the upcoming 9-1-1 elementary education curriculum, as well as a demo of the video component of the curriculum. This curriculum is available now to be used in schools to aid in teaching children in grades K through 4 about when and how to call 9-1-1. The program is designed for county coordinators to offer to schools for their use and is found on the "Coordinator Resources" page of the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office website (911.ohio.gov).

After a break for lunch, Kelly Castle of Ohio FirstNet and Bill Hinkle of National FirstNet gave an update on the status of the National Public Safety Broadband Network project. This presentation was followed by a discussion panel on "text to 9-1-1" featuring Brian MacMurdo of Hamilton County Communications, Captain Matt Franke of the Butler County Sheriff's Office, and National NENA Technical Issues Director Roger Hixson. To close out the event, Rob Jackson thanked attendees not only for coming, but for their continued partnership in making 9-1-1 the success that it is and will be into the future.

Overall the symposium was a success, with the majority of the feedback being overwhelmingly positive.

Copies of all presentation materials are available at the 9-1-1 Program Office website, 911.ohio.gov.



Dom Tiberi presenting “Maria’s Message” to first responders at the First Annual Ohio 9-1-1 Symposium.

Ohio 9-1-1 Ride-Along Program

Ohio 9-1-1 Administrator Rob Jackson conducted a Public Safety First Responder Ride-Along with the Lancaster Fire Department in September. The Ride-Along Program is geared at ensuring first responders’ needs are addressed as Ohio’s NG 9-1-1 system is built over the next several years.

“Although much attention is given to public-safety telecommunicators and designing the system to enhance 9-1-1 for the public, first responders need to take advantage of the new components of Next Generation 9-1-1, which ultimately will help them help the public,” Jackson said. “The Lancaster Fire Department personnel I rode with not only displayed calm professionalism and needed emergency response services, they displayed the compassion and caring approach I would want my family to receive when faced with an emergency.”

There were a variety of issues discussed during the ride-along concerning PSAP and first responder relations, text-to-9-1-1, and location quality for 9-1-1. The 9-1-1 Program Office would like to thank LFD Chief David Ward, Captains Banjoff and Moore, Lieutenant K.J. Watts, and Firefighter/Paramedics Locke, Fouch, Dufner, and Hatem.

Pictured (from left) Firefighter/Paramedic Locke, Ohio 9-1-1 Administrator Rob Jackson, and Firefighter/Paramedics Dufner and Fouch



PSAP Visits

Since early 2015, the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office has conducted periodic visits to PSAPs throughout the state to meet with county 9-1-1 coordinators and PSAP managers. 9-1-1 Administrator Rob Jackson, as well as those he has met with, believes that these visits have been helpful in a number of ways.

First, the practice of visiting county coordinators and PSAPs has been important in making face-to-face introductions. The process of traveling to individual counties and meeting with coordinators has allowed both Jackson and officials at the local level to form connections that would be impossible by email or telephone communication alone. Such connections foster better transfer of information about the current issues and needs related to 9-1-1 in the State of Ohio.

Second, by visiting the PSAPs in different counties, the 9-1-1 Program Office has been able to become

RFP Update

As previously announced, the State of Ohio has contracted with consultants from L.R. Kimball to aid the state in developing, distributing, receiving, and analyzing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to build the Ohio Next Generation 9-1-1 system. The ESINet Steering Committee Draft RFP Panel will review technical system components of the draft RFP and propose edits and suggestions.

9-1-1 With Op and Rader!

As advertised, the Op and Rader 9-1-1 Elementary Education Program is now ready to be launched! The curriculum is posted to 911.ohio.gov and available for download under the “Coordinator Resources” tab.



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