The FCC and EMS Communications

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EMS Providers and Communications

- FCC has no authority over EMS, but . . .
- FCC regulates communications networks, which EMS providers need to operate effectively
  - 911 Emergency Calling
  - First Responder Communications
  - Public Alerts and Warnings
  - Network Reliability and Resiliency
Licensing of all state, local, and tribal public safety radio systems (police, fire, EMS)

Regulation of 911 and E911
  - Regulatory authority over commercial carriers
  - Location accuracy rules
  - Non-initialized phones
  - Next-Generation 911
FCC Role in Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Public Alert and Warning Systems
  - Broadcast alerts
  - New targeted alerting technologies (e.g., cellphone alerts)

- Network Resiliency and Reliability
  - Planning for major emergencies (e.g., hurricanes, pandemics)

- Support for restoration of key communications facilities
FCC National Broadband Plan (2010)
Public Safety Recommendations

- Create a nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network
- Enhance Next-Generation 911 and Emergency Alerting
- Promote cyber security and protection of critical broadband infrastructure
For More Information

- FCC Website – www.fcc.gov
- PSHSB Communications Clearinghouse – www.fcc.gov/pshs/clearinghouse