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PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU
REMINDS WIRELESS PROVIDERS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE
WIRELESS RESILIENCY COOPERATIVE FRAMEWORK TO FILE THEIR INTENT
IN PS DOCKET NO. 11-60

PS Docket No. 11-60

By this Public Notice, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (Bureau) of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) reminds wireless providers interested in participating in the voluntary Wireless Resiliency Cooperative Framework (Framework)<sup>1</sup> to submit their intent in writing within 30 days of this Public Notice.

The resiliency of the mobile wireless industry's communications infrastructure during emergencies and disasters is of critical importance. In December 2016, following discussions between the Commission and the wireless industry, the Commission adopted an *Order* aimed at promoting wireless resiliency.<sup>2</sup> The *Order* determined that the voluntary Framework, jointly submitted by signatories AT&T, CTIA, Sprint, T-Mobile, U.S. Cellular, and Verizon presented an appropriate path forward to improving wireless resiliency and provider transparency.<sup>3</sup>

The Framework set out a five-pronged approach for enhancing coordination during an emergency: (1) providing for reasonable roaming under disaster arrangements when technically feasible; (2) fostering mutual aid among wireless providers during emergencies; (3) enhancing municipal preparedness and restoration by convening with local government public safety representatives to develop best practices, and establishing a provider/PSAP contact database; (4) increasing consumer readiness and preparation through development and dissemination with consumer groups of a Consumer Readiness Checklist; and (5) improving public awareness and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Letter from Joan Marsh, AT&T; Charles McKee, Sprint; Grant Spellmeyer, U.S. Cellular; Scott Bergmann, CTIA; Steve Sharkey, T-Mobile; and William H. Johnson, Verizon, to Marlene Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, PS Docket Nos. 11-60, 13-239 (filed Apr. 27, 2016) (Framework) ("[A] voluntary initiative that will enhance coordination and communication to advance wireless service continuity and information sharing during and after emergencies and disasters."). *See also* Letter from Brian M. Josef, Assistant Vice President – Regulatory Affairs, CTIA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, PS Docket Nos. 11-60 and 13-239 (filed Dec. 13, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Improving the Resiliency of Mobile Wireless Communications Networks; Reliability and Continuity of Communications Networks, Including Broadband Technologies, Order, 31 FCC Red 13745 (2016) (Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 13745-46, para. 1.

stakeholder communications on service and restoration status, through Commission posting of data on cell site outages on an aggregated, county-by-county basis in the relevant area through its Disaster Information Reporting System.<sup>4</sup>

By this Public Notice, the Bureau invites wireless providers to participate in the voluntary Framework, and to jointly and collaboratively take steps to ensure wireless resiliency during disasters and other emergencies. We request providers interested in participating in the voluntary Framework to confirm their intent in writing in PS Docket 11-60, within 30 days of this Public Notice.<sup>5</sup> The Commission will publish the names of the wireless providers that have joined the commitments embodied in the Framework on its website each year, before hurricane season.

For further information, contact: Jennifer Holtz, Deputy Division Chief, Cybersecurity and Communications Reliability Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, at (202) 418-2336, jennifer.holtz@fcc.gov; or Renee Roland, Special Counsel, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, at (202) 418-2357, renee.roland@fcc.gov.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 13747, para. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Commission encouraged providers to adopt the Framework, and to signify their intent to do so in writing, in PS Docket 11-60. *See Order* at 13751, para. 18.