**DA 22-552**

**Released: May 18, 2022**

**FCC ANNOUNCES AGENDA FOR 988 GEOLOCATION FORUM**

**WC Docket No. 18-336**

As previously announced, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in coordination with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, will convene a forum on the challenges and opportunities related to geolocation for 988, the three-digit number designated for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.[[1]](#footnote-3) This event will be held virtually on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The agenda for the 988 Geolocation Forum is outlined below and may be updated at the Commission’s discretion at <https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2022/05/forum-geolocation-988>.

**9:30 am** **Welcome**

*Speakers*:

* Trent Harkrader, Chief of Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB), FCC
* Debra Jordan, Chief of Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB), FCC

**9:40 am** **Opening Remarks**

*Speakers*:

* Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman, FCC
* Xavier Becerra, Secretary of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
* Steven Lieberman, Deputy Under Secretary for Health, Performing the Delegable Duties of Under Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

**9:55 am** **Presentation: Location Information Evolution**

*Speaker*:

* David Furth, Deputy Chief, PSHSB, FCC

**10:25 am Presentation: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline & Geolocation Needs**

*Speakers*:

* Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D., Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), HHS
* John Palmieri, Acting Director for 988 Team and Behavioral Health Crisis Coordinating Office, SAMHSA, HHS
* James Wright, Chief of Crisis Center Operations, SAMHSA, HHS
* John Draper, Executive Vice President, National Networks, Vibrant Emotional Health

**11:00 am Break – 5 minutes**

**11:05 am Panel: 988 Frontline Challenges Without Geolocation**

*Moderator*:

James Wright, SAMSHA, HHS

*Panelists*:

* Dale Adair, Chief Psychiatric Officer and Medical Director, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
* Bart Andrews, Chief Clinical Officer, Behavioral Health Response
* Sandri Kramer, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services
* Lisa Kearney, Director of Community Relations, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services
* Lora Ueland, Executive Director, Valley Communications Center, Regional 911 Center, Kent, Washington
* Adam Wasserman, State Enhanced 911 Coordinator, Washington State Emergency Management Division, Washington Military Department

**12:05 pm Lunch Break – 30 minutes**

**12:35 pm Remarks**

*Speakers*:

* Brendan Carr, Commissioner, FCC
* Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner, FCC
* Nathan Simington, Commissioner, FCC

**12:50 pm Presentation: Frontline Challenges Without Geolocation on Other Essential Services**

*Speakers*:

* Sara Kinsman, Director, Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Medicine, Health Resources and Services Administration
* Michael Lynch, MD, FACMT, Medical Director, PA Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Programs; Medical Director, Pittsburgh Poison Center; Medical Director, UPMC Health Plan Substance Use Disorder Services; Director, UPMC Medical Toxicology Telemedicine Bridge Clinic; Associate Professor, Division of Medical Toxicology, Dept. of Emergency Medicine, Divisions of Adolescent and Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Dept. of Pediatrics, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
* Julie A. Weber, RPh, CPSI, Director, Missouri Poison Center at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital; President, American Association of Poison Control Centers
* Josh Pedersen, Interim Senior Director, 211, United Way Worldwide
* Kristin McCloud, Executive Director, Pathways of Central Ohio

**1:10 pm Panel: 988 Consumer Considerations With Geolocation**

*Moderator*:

Richard McKeon, Chief, Suicide Prevention Branch Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA, HHS

*Panelists*:

* Shelby Rowe, Director, Suicide Prevention Resource Center, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
* David Jobes, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Board of Directors and Chair of the National Public Policy Council
* Keris Jän Myrick, Co-Director, The Mental Health Strategic Impact Initiative/ S2i
* Madhuri Jha, Director, Kennedy-Satcher Center for Mental Health Equity, Satcher Health Leadership Institute, Morehouse School of Medicine
* Hannah Wesolowski, Chief Advocacy Officer, National Alliance on Mental Illness

**2:10 pm Presentation: 911/988 Interactions**

*Speakers*:

* April Heinze, 911 and PSAP Operations Director, NENA: The 911 Association
* Brandon Abley, Director of Technology, NENA: The 911 Association

**2:20 pm Break – 5 minutes**

**2:25 pm Remarks**

*Speaker*:

* Christen Linke Young, Deputy Director, White House Domestic Policy Council for Health and Veterans

**2:30 pm Presentation: Lifeline Technology and Location Data Usage – Current & Future**

*Speaker*:

* Grant Riewe, Chief Technology Officer, Vibrant Emotional Health

**2:45 pm Panel: Identifying Technical Challenges & Solutions**

*Moderators*:

* Heather Hendrickson, Deputy Chief of Competition Policy Division (CPD), WCB, FCC
* Christi Shewman, Special Counsel, CPD, WCB, FCC

*Panelists*:

* John Snapp, VP of Technology, Intrado Life and Safety
* Kelly Springer, Director of Labs, Compliance Program, AT&T
* Christopher Cox, Distinguished Engineer, Systems Engineering, Verizon
* Rosemary Leist, Senior Numbering Policy Manager, Legal Government Affairs, T-Mobile USA, Inc.

**3:45 pm Wrap-up & Closing Remarks**

*Speakers*:

* James Wright, SAMHSA, HHS
* Trent Harkrader, WCB, FCC
* Debra Jordan, PSHSB, FCC

**3:55 pm Adjourn**

Emcee: Pam Arluk, Chief of CPD, WCB, FCC

The 988 Geolocation Forum is open to the public and registration is not required. The event will be held virtually and is viewable via the FCC’s livestream, available at [www.fcc.gov/live](http://www.fcc.gov/live). The FCC’s webcast is free to the public. Audience members participating may email questions for the panelists to [livequestions@fcc.gov](mailto:livequestions@fcc.gov). The forum moderators will attempt to incorporate as many email questions as possible, but may be constrained by the volume of questions and time limitations.

Closed captioning will be provided. Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Please include a description of the accommodation you will need and tell us how to contact you if we need more information. Requests should be made as early as possible. Please send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the FCC’s Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For additional information about the 988 Geolocation Forum, please contact Jordan Reth, (202) 418-1418 or [Jordan.Reth@fcc.gov](mailto:Jordan.Reth@fcc.gov), or Michelle Sclater, (202) 418-0388 or [Michelle.Sclater@fcc.gov](mailto:Michelle.Sclater@fcc.gov). Press inquiries should be directed to Katie Gorscak of the FCC’s Office of Media Relations at (202) 418-2156 or [Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov](mailto:Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov).

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1. *FCC Announces Forum on Geolocation for 988*, Public Notice, DA 22-457 (WCB 2022). The National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 designated 988 as the universal telephone number within the United States for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system. *See* National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020, Pub. L. No. 116-172 (National Suicide Hotline Act). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)