



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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News Media Contact:
Rosemary Kimball at (202) 418-0511
E-mail: rosemary.kimball@fcc.gov

FCC RELEASES AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 15 E9-1-1 DISABILITY ACCESS SUMMIT

The FCC has released the agenda for the November 15, 2006, Summit that will focus on E9-1-1 calling and access for persons with hearing and speech disabilities. The Summit will run from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM at FCC Headquarters, 445 12th St., SW, Washington, DC. The agenda is attached.

Last year, the Commission initiated a proceeding seeking comment on how the Commission can ensure that consumers using Internet-based forms of Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS), specifically Video Relay Services (VRS) and Internet Protocol Relay (IP Relay), can access emergency services in the same way as all other consumers.

Internet-based TRS calls do not originate on the Public Switched Telephone Network and, therefore, present unique challenges. Emergency 9-1-1 calls placed using VRS and IP Relay systems do not automatically display an address indicating the location of the incoming call as do more traditional phone calls. The E9-1-1 Disability Access Summit is intended to provide an opportunity to explore challenges and potential solutions for users of Internet-based TRS services to access Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) by calling 9-1-1.

The goals of the Summit are:

- (1) To identify the various types of direct Internet-based E9-1-1 access that people with hearing or speech disabilities need;
- (2) To identify the technologies, services, and applications through which access should be offered; and
- (3) To define the technological, policy, and commercial issues involved in providing the needed access to persons with hearing and speech disabilities.

Participants will include representatives of other federal agencies; state and local emergency service providers; telecommunications and TRS industry; hearing and speech disability advocates; and FCC staff. Lessons learned from this Summit will help the FCC design and focus efforts to improve emergency communications access for persons with hearing and speech disabilities. The Summit is open to the public and seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. The Summit will include panel discussions on the following topics: needs of the hearing and speech disability communities; state of technology and possible solutions.

The Summit will be webcast live and also archived for later viewing. Access to and additional information concerning the webcast is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/>. Open captioning will be provided for the webcast.

Reasonable Accommodation

Open captioning and sign language interpreters will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need including as much detail as you can. Also include a way we can contact you if we need more information. Make your request as early as possible. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may not be possible to fill. Send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau: For reasonable accommodations: 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

More Information

For more information about the E9-1-1 Disability Access Summit, please contact Cheryl King at 202-418-2284 (voice) or Cheryl.King@fcc.gov (E-mail).

To request this document, or other materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an E-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

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E9-1-1 Disability Access Summit

AGENDA

November 15, 2006

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

9:30 Welcome by Commissioner Deborah T. Tate, FCC

9:35-9:45 a.m. Welcome and Introductions and Review Goals of the Summit Event

Monica Desai, Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

- (1) To identify precisely the various types of direct E9-1-1 access that people with hearing or speech disabilities need;
- (2) To identify the technologies, services, and applications through which access should be offered;
- (3) To define the technological, policy, and commercial issues involved in providing the needed access to persons with hearing and speech disabilities.

Introduction of Ollie Cantos, White House, Office of Domestic Policy and other distinguished guests

9:45-10:05 a.m. Reports on E9-1-1 related FCC proceedings

Moderator: Cheryl King

- VRS/IP Relay E9-1-1 NPRM - CGB/DRO Thomas Chandler
- Numbering FNPRM- CGB/DRO Thomas Chandler
- VRS/IP Relay Misuse/Fraud NPRM- CGB/DRO Thomas Chandler
- VoIP 911/E911 Calling – Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Carol Simpson
- Wireless E9-1-1 Calling - Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Jeff Cohen

10:05-10:30 a.m. Highlights from other agencies

Introduced by Cheryl King

- Department of Transportation, Jenny Hansen (NG9-1-1 Project Director, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration); Laurie Flaherty, DOT/NHTSA, Program Analyst
- Department of Justice, Renee Wohlenhaus, Deputy Chief, Disability Rights Section; Department of Homeland Security, Claudia Gordon, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

10:30-10:45 a.m. Break

10:45-11:15 a.m. Internet-based TRS Providers' Report on Progress

Moderator: Jay Keithley

- Communication Access Center (Michigan) – Bill McClelland
- Communications Services for the Deaf – Mike Ekse
- HandsOn – Kelby Brick
- Hamilton – Dixie Zeigler
- Sorenson - Mike Maddix
- Sprint Nextel - Paul Ludwick
- Ultratec – Pamela Holmes
- Verizon Relay Services – Jerry Nelson

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Consumers' Panel

(60 minutes)

Moderator: Greg Hlibok.

Panelists: -Sheri Farinha Mutti, Chair (E911 Stakeholder Council, Consumer Advocate, CEO, NorCal Center on Deafness, Sacramento, California); Claude Stout (Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Inc.); Rebecca Ladew (Speech-to-Speech advocate and STS user); Ed Bosson (TX Relay Administrator); Elizabeth Spiers (American Association of the Deaf/Blind).

12:15-1:00 p.m. Lunch (45 minutes)

**1:00-2:00 p.m. Solutions/Options Panels –
(45 minutes)**

Moderator: Dana Shaffer, Deputy Bureau Chief, Chief of Policy, PSHS Bureau

Panelists: Brenda Kelly-Frey, (MD State Relay Administrator); Karen Peltz Strauss, (KPS Consulting); Richard Ray (ADA Compliance Officer, City of Los Angeles, Department on Disability, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program & Services); Judy Harkins, Ph.D. (Director, Gallaudet RERC-TA); Brian Rosen (Senior Director, NeuStar, Inc.)

2:00 -2:30 p.m. Round Table Discussion – all participants

Facilitator: Cheryl King