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For Immediate Release

FCC CHAIRMAN AJIT PAI ANNOUNCES INVESTIGATION INTO YESTERDAY'S 911 OUTAGE

WASHINGTON, March 9, 2017 – Last night, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai announced that he has launched an investigation into the 911 outage that impacted AT&T wireless subscribers across the United States yesterday evening.

"Every call to 911 must go through," said Chairman Pai. "So when I first learned of yesterday's outage, I immediately directed FCC staff to contact AT&T about it and the company's efforts to restore access to emergency services to the American public. I also spoke with Randall Stephenson, AT&T's chief executive officer, and stressed the urgent need to restore service and to communicate with first responders, as well as AT&T customers, about the status of operations. Additionally, I announced last night that I have directed Commission staff to track down the root cause of this outage."

"The FCC's public safety professionals are on the case," said Lisa Fowlkes, Acting Chief of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. "Access to 911 emergency services is essential for all Americans, especially the most vulnerable. We will fully investigate this outage and determine the root cause and its impact."

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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. Cir. 1974).