NEXT GENERATION 911 (NG911)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Tennessee remains a leader in Next Generation 911 (NG911) with our nationally recognized emergency services Internet Protocol network (ESInet), first responder network (FirstNet), the hosted call-handling as a service (CHaaS) solution, and statewide text-to-911 deployment efforts. Redundant and reliable 911 service is a priority and the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB) is committed to providing excellent customer service to the Tennessee 911 community through its values of integrity, leadership and accountability.



QUARTERLY PROGRESS — DECEMBER 2024

The implementation of AT&T's ESInet and next generation core services (NGCS) project for Tennessee is nearly complete. This next iteration of NG911 builds upon all the features of the prior NG911 network - geospatial routing, policy-based alternate routing, integrated text-to-911, and call-handling as a service ("CHaaS"). The new implementation includes several enhancements: diverse and redundant connectivity to all PSAPs, FirstNet as a wireless backup, robust reporting tools via ECaTS, more accurate caller location and mapping feature capabilities via Rapid Deploy, and an executive dashboard.

Through the end of 2024, AT&T has completed cutovers for 119 PSAPs statewide, representing about 86% of the total PSAPs in the state. The deployment schedule for the remaining PSAPs is being developed based on the general readiness of the pieces required for cutover – equipment, ESInet circuits and connectivity, call-handling systems, and GIS data. Many PSAPs have chosen to go with i3 service, which requires additional addressing work and network setup time. So far, 70 PSAPs have converted to i3 service and many more are planning for the i3 conversion when they cutover. Current statistics show there will be over 90 PSAPs receiving i3 service once the work is complete. The goal was to have all deployments completed by the first quarter of 2025, however due to the AT&T CWA strike and Hurricane Helene, the completion date has slipped into the second quarter of 2025.

AT&T continues contacting PSAPs regarding ECaTS and Rapid Deploy. The state encourages PSAPs to take advantage of these services because they are free and they can improve PSAP operations. Additionally, AT&T have begun migrating OSP traffic off the selective routers. Currently, the big 3 wireless carriers plus about 70% of the state's end-offices have been migrated. This accounts for over 90% of the state's 911 call traffic. Smaller carriers and VOIP providers are in the process of migrating. We estimate the migrations will continue for several more months.

NG911 STATISTICS

Over
33 MILLION
calls processed



Since 2020, **90%** of calls are wireless and the average monthly statewide call volume is over **289k**



Quality GIS data maintained across the state

STATEWIDE TRANSITION STATUS



CALL HANDLING AS A SERVICE

Over the past five years, many emergency communications districts (ECDs) and PSAPs have migrated to this shared call-handling solution. CHaaS offers PSAPs the ability to utilize a shared network and system to reduce on-premises equipment requirements and the administration required to support it. Due to its popularity, the TECB has expanded this offering to include the Motorola Vesta, (in addition to the Intrado Viper). The TECB recognizes that this solution is not fitting for all PSAPs, however ECDs now have a choice between two of the top call handling solutions available in the market today. There are currently 42 PSAPs on the CHaaS solution and 5 more are planning their migration in 2025.

NEXT STEPS

AT&T will continue reaching out to the PSAPs to discuss circuits, diversity, moving to i3 service, text-to-911, FirstNet, ECaTS, and Rapid Deploy. PSAPs are urged to continue making GIS data improvements as necessary to ensure call routing accuracy.

Additionally, note that all PSAPs have been transitioned to the AT&T Public Safety Platform (PSP) for SOI and MSAG operations maintenance. If you have any questions about any projects including Text-to-911 implementation, please contact the TECB Director of Technology, Eddie Burchell at eddie.burchell@tn.gov.



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