

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2021

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San Joaquin County Signs-On to FirstNet – America's Public Safety Communications Network

New Technologies Expand Our Capabilities to Better Serve San Joaquin County

STOCKTON, Calif., January, 11, 2021 — San Joaquin County is connecting our Sheriff and Probation Officers, Public Works, Office of Emergency Services and other county personnel to FirstNet®—the *only* nationwide, high-speed broadband communications platform dedicated to and purpose-built for America's first responders and the extended public safety community. With this tech advancement, we can equip our first responders and public safety personnel with new capabilities and reliable access to critical information while in the field. That allows us to better serve those who live, work and visit San Joaquin County.

FirstNet is designed to improve communications across public safety entities nationwide, allowing first responders to easily and quickly communicate with one another during everyday situations, big events or emergencies. This is integral to solving the common roadblock that communications issues have posed in past public safety responses.

San Joaquin County is using FirstNet on our vehicles, modems, routers, and department-issued phones.

"The focus of our County technology is to transform through innovation," said **Chris Cruz, CIO, San Joaquin County**. "FirstNet is an innovative technology that allows the County to increase service delivery of communications to our first responders."

San Joaquin County joined FirstNet to provide our first responders and public safety personnel with reliable, modern communications tools needed to perform at our best, including:

• One, nationwide communications platform that allows us to efficiently and effectively coordinate emergency responses across agencies and jurisdictions.

- Always-on priority and preemption to give us reliable access to the connection we need even when the network is congested.
- A separate, dedicated and highly secure network core purpose-built for public safety's sensitive communications.
- Planned increases in coverage and capacity, enabling us to better respond to emergencies in all areas of San Joaquin County—and across the state.
- Innovative tools—like relevant applications and connected devices—to give us more actionable information for heightened situational awareness.

"San Joaquin County is excited to be using an innovative and resilient technology platform that will transform the ability of our public safety and local government agencies to communicate in a prioritized environment for communication and data," said **Pamela Sauseda, Information Systems Analyst, San Joaquin County**.

FirstNet is built with <u>AT&T</u> in public-private partnership with the <u>First Responder Network</u> <u>Authority</u> (FirstNet Authority). It's designed with and for public safety.

"We're honored that San Joaquin County chose FirstNet to elevate their communications capabilities," said **Rhonda Johnson**, **President**, **AT&T California**. "It's our mission to give first responders the cutting-edge tools they need to safely and effectively achieve their mission. FirstNet will help first responders and public safety personnel in urban and rural communities across San Joaquin County perform at the highest levels to keep themselves and those they serve out of harm's way."

"FirstNet is the exclusive communications platform being built with AT&T for public safety, inspired by public safety. There is no substitution for this purpose-built network," said **Edward Parkinson, CEO, FirstNet Authority**. "We look forward to supporting San Joaquin County and all of California's public safety community with FirstNet, making sure it delivers what they need, when they need it."

To learn more about San Joaquin County, visit http://www.sigov.org.

To learn more about FirstNet, go to <u>FirstNet.com</u>. To learn more about subscribing to FirstNet, contact Zoila Ramirez at 209-603-2700 or <u>zoila.ramirez@att.com</u>. Individual first responders can also subscribe to FirstNet at a local AT&T store.

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