



# NEWS

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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. Circ 1974).

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## **FCC TO LAUNCH E911 COORDINATION INITIATIVE**

### *First Meeting to Occur at Commission on April 29*

Washington, D.C. -- FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell has announced that the Commission will launch an Enhanced 911 (E911) Coordination Initiative, bringing together relevant stakeholders to share experiences and devise strategies for expediting E911 deployment. The Initiative will officially commence with a meeting held at the Commission on April 29, 2003.

As described by Commissioners Adelstein and Abernathy this morning during their testimony before the Communications Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, the meeting will follow up on the findings and recommendations contained in the Hatfield Report. Dale Hatfield is an independent expert and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary Telecommunications at the University of Colorado at Boulder commissioned by the FCC to examine technical and operational issues affecting E911 deployment.

“Wireless E911 deployment is an urgent priority deserving of the ever-increasing attention of the Commission and Congress,” said Chairman Powell. “My fellow Commissioners and I look forward to playing a constructive role in facilitating communication between and among the various parties tasked with making E911 deployment a reality. It is our responsibility to ensure that all wireless consumers have access to this lifesaving technology – and the E911 Initiative we announce today is another step in that direction.”

In addition, the meeting will address ongoing implementation issues such as Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) funding, wireless carrier implementation and prioritization, issues relating to Local Exchange Carriers (LECs), and challenges faced by rural carriers. Mr. Hatfield plans to participate in this meeting, which will also include representatives from the public safety community, wireless carriers, and other interested stakeholders. This meeting will be the first in a series of coordination efforts to allow the Commission to facilitate E911 deployment.

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