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## **FirstNet Board Member Kevin McGinnis Named to Lead Tribal Outreach, Begins Meetings with Tribes**

**Washington, D.C.** - First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Chairman Sam Ginn announced that he has named FirstNet Board Member Kevin McGinnis to head the organization's stakeholder outreach with tribes. McGinnis has begun meeting with tribal leaders.

McGinnis is leading FirstNet outreach and education efforts with the sovereign tribes that have a formal government-to-government relationship with the U.S. government. He is focusing on gathering tribal requirements, priorities and concerns for design of a nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. The network is intended to improve communication among police, firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, helping to save lives and solve crimes.

McGinnis currently heads North East Mobile Health Services, the largest paramedic service in Maine. He is a nationally recognized advocate for broadband communications within the emergency medical services (EMS) community. He serves as the communications technology representative for five national EMS organizations and federal agencies. A member of the Public Safety Alliance, McGinnis also is Chair of the SAFECOM Executive Program, the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security advisory committee on communications interoperability in public safety.

"We are eager to listen to native communities about the wireless coverage and capacity they require for better public safety communications," said McGinnis. "Tribal participation in this process is essential to our research and the eventual design of a network that delivers crucial services to diverse American Indian

and Alaska Native populations."

*Read the full article at:* <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press-release/2013/firstnet-board-member-kevin-mcginnis-named-lead-tribal-outreach-begins-meetings-t>