



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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See *MCI v. FCC*, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Matthew Berry, 202-418-2005
Email: Matthew.Berry@fcc.gov

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI ON THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU'S DERECHO REPORT

When Americans dial 9-1-1, they must be able to reach first responders without delay or difficulty whether that call is placed because of a derecho, a tornado, an earthquake, a flood, a hurricane, or a personal emergency. I therefore look forward to studying the recommendations contained in the report released today by the staff of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau and thank them for their hard work. I also am eager to receive and to review the input of all affected stakeholders. Those of us in the public sector must work together with those in the private sector to prevent future disruptions to 9-1-1 communications.

In that vein, today's report notes that had Next Generation 9-1-1 "architectures and capabilities been in place in the [areas affected by the derecho], they likely could have significantly lessened the derecho's impact on emergency communications." NG 9-1-1 will improve the safety of the American people, and it is a critical component of the all-IP world just over the horizon. That is one more reason why I look forward to working with my colleagues and the public safety community to facilitate a successful IP transition—beginning with our recommendations to Congress, due next month, on the appropriate legal framework for NG 9-1-1 services.¹

¹ See Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, § 6509