

**Date sent:**

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**Subject:**

Commitment from Four Major Wireless Carriers on availability of Text-to-911

On December 6, 2012, the FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski announced that the four major wireless carriers – AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, T-Mobile – have agreed to accelerate the availability of text-to-911, with major deployments expected in 2013 and a commitment to nationwide availability by May 15, 2014.

Text-to-911 will provide consumers, including millions of consumers with hearing and speech disabilities, access to emergency services by enabling them to send a text message to 911. This will also provide consumers with enhanced access to emergency communications in situations where a voice call could endanger the caller, or a person with disabilities is unable to make a voice call. Text-to-911 will be available as an addition to, not a substitute for, voice calls to 911 services, and consumers should always make a voice call to 911 during an emergency if they can.

**Links to the announcement:**

[http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2012/db1207/DOC-317786A1.doc](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db1207/DOC-317786A1.doc)

[http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2012/db1207/DOC-317786A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db1207/DOC-317786A1.pdf)

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