

# **CHARTER**

## **Of the**

### **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION'S**

### **TASK FORCE ON OPTIMAL PSAP ARCHITECTURE**

#### **1. The Task Force's Official Designation**

The official designation of the Task Force will be the "Task Force on Optimal Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Architecture" (hereinafter, Task Force or TFOPA).

#### **2. Authority**

The Task Force is established pursuant to the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in the Second Report & Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in PS Docket No. 11-153 and PS Docket No. 10-255 (released August 13, 2014)<sup>1</sup> and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

#### **3. The Task Force's Objectives and Scope of Its Activity**

There are approximately 6,800 PSAPs in operation across the nation. This large number of PSAPs potentially increases the costs and resources needed from the communications industry, public safety community, and state, local and tribal governments. Further, public safety communications systems are converting to Next Generation 911 (NG911) in the coming years, which may further add to the costs and resource requirements of the nation's PSAPs. In addition, a number of states continue to divert critical E911 funding from its intended purposes to unrelated functions. To address these issues, the Task Force shall examine the current structure and architecture of the nation's PSAPs in order to determine whether additional consolidation of PSAP facilities and architecture would promote greater efficiency of operations, safety of life, and cost containment, while retaining needed integration with local first responder dispatch and support.

#### **4. Description of Duties for Which the Task Force is Responsible**

The duties of the Task Force will be to study and report findings and recommendations on the following issues:

1. Optimal PSAP system and network configuration in terms of emergency communications efficiency, performance, and operations functionality;
2. Cost projections for conversion to and annual operation of PSAPs that incorporate such optimal system design;
3. Comparative cost projections for annual maintenance of all existing PSAPs annually and upgrading them to NG911;
4. Recommendations on ways to ensure states use E911 funding for their intended purpose; and
5. Whether states that divert E911 funds should be ineligible to participate on various FCC councils, committees, and working groups.

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<sup>1</sup> Facilitating the Deployment of Text-to-911 and Other Next Generation 911 Applications, Framework for Next Generation 911 Deployment, PS Docket Nos. 11-153 and 10-255, *Second Report and Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, 29 FCC Rcd 9846, 9881 ¶¶ 79-80 (2014).

The Task Force will present its initial findings and recommendations to the Commission no later than April 30, 2015 unless such period is extended by consent of the Chairman of the Commission (or his designee).

**5. Official to Whom the Task Force Reports**

The Task Force shall report to the Chairman of the FCC. The Chairman of the FCC shall appoint the Chair of the Task Force.

**6. Agency Responsible for Providing Necessary Support**

The FCC will provide the necessary support for the Task Force, including the meeting facilities for the Task Force.

**7. Estimated Total Operating Costs in Dollars and Staff Years**

An estimated two FCC staff years will be expended in support of the Task Force. The Task Force's estimated total operating cost to the FCC is approximately \$150,000 per year.

**8. Designated Federal Officer**

A full-time or part-time employee, appointed by the FCC Chairman, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the Task Force's meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the FCC Chairman.

**9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Task Force Meetings**

The Task Force will meet at least twice a year according to its charter.

**10. Duration**

The Task Force will present its initial findings and recommendations to the Commission no later than April 30, 2015, unless that date is otherwise extended under Section 4, but in any event will have two (2) years from the date its Charter is filed to carry out the purposes for which it was created.

**11. Task Force's Termination Date**

The Task Force will terminate two (2) years from the date the Task Force's charter is filed, unless renewed before that date for an additional term.

**12. Membership and Designation**

Members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Chairman of the FCC. Members will be selected from among Federal, state, tribal, territorial and/or government agencies, consumer or community organizations or other non-profit entities, the private sector, and the currently constituted Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council (CSRIC) to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to effectively address the issues to be considered. Members will be appointed either as Representatives or as Special Government Employees (SGEs), as necessary.

### **13. Subcommittees**

The FCC has the authority to create informal task groups or subcommittees that may meet more frequently than the Task Force. Activities and recommendations of the informal task groups or subcommittees must be reported to the Task Force as a whole, and only as modified or ratified by the Task Force as a whole may such recommendations be reported to the Chairman of the FCC.

### **14. Recordkeeping**

Records of the proceedings will be kept, as required by applicable laws and regulations. All records of the committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

### **15. Charter Filing Date**

[Month XX, 2014]