

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Improving 9-1-1 Reliability)	PS Docket No. 13-75
)	
Reliability and Continuity of Communications)	
Networks, Including Broadband Technologies)	PS Docket No. 11-60

BRIEF REPLY COMMENTS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The City of New York (“City”) hereby submits the following brief reply comments in response to the Federal Communications Commission’s (“the Commission” or the “FCC”) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“NPRM”) in the above-captioned proceeding. The City commends the Commission for issuing the “Derecho” report¹ and for providing an opportunity for the City to comment on how 911 service providers can and must harden the networks that deliver 911 calls to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). To the extent that new rules do not conflict with existing state and local regulations or impose any financial burden on PSAPs, the City supports the FCC’s adoption of rules that will place a greater regulatory obligation on 911 service providers to adhere to industry standard best practices.

¹ Federal Communications Commission, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, “Impact of the June 2012 Derecho on Communications Networks and Services: Report and Recommendations,” January 10, 2013

Voluntary compliance with industry best practices regarding critical 911 call delivery infrastructure systems has proven inadequate, as was illustrated in the Derecho report, and 911 service providers do not currently have sufficient incentive to fully comply with best practices recommendations. The City, therefore, supports FCC regulatory oversight, to the extent that new regulations do not conflict with existing State and local regulations regarding the delivery of 911 services, rather than continued voluntary reliance on industry best practices as a means to ensure that 911 service providers provide and maintain a resilient 911 call delivery system. The City believes the FCC should adopt rules requiring minimal standards for 911 call delivery services and periodic FCC compliance review to verify that 911 service providers are adhering to such standards.

The City supports the following, for dense urban, urban and suburban areas:

- 1) Annual auditing of 911 trunked circuits and other designated high priority circuits to ensure physical diversity.
- 2) Annual full load testing of central office backup power battery systems.
- 3) Quarterly full load testing of central office backup power generator systems.
- 4) Annual certification that monitor and control link paths are physically diverse and terminate at separate locations.
- 5) Outage notifications, including both primary and secondary outages, to affected PSAPs within one hour of discovery.
- 6) Sufficient financial consequences for non-compliance, to provide an adequate incentive for 911 service providers to comply with any new regulations the Commission elects to adopt.

These measures should include notification and reporting of their findings to affected PSAPs and to the Commission. In addition, the FCC should consider the impact that any new rulemaking may have on future next generation 911 systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ _____

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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