FirstNet Chairman Sam Ginn Appoints Vice Chairs of FirstNet’s Public Safety Advisory Committee

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WASHINGTON - First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Board Chairman Sam Ginn announced today the appointment of four Vice Chairs of FirstNet’s Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC).

The Vice Chairs are: Chief Bill McCammon from Alameda County, California, representing the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association; Paul Patrick from Salt Lake City, Utah, representing the National Association of State EMS Officials; Heather Hogsett from Washington, D.C., representing the National Governors Association; and Tom Sorley from Houston, Texas, representing the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Chairman Ginn previously announced the appointment of Chief Harlin McEwen as the Chairman of the PSAC, and McEwen and the four Vice Chairs together will make up the PSAC Executive Committee.

"I'm pleased that Bill McCammon, Paul Patrick, Heather Hogsett and Tom Sorley have agreed to serve as Vice Chairs of FirstNet’s PSAC," said Ginn. "We welcome their advice and input as we begin our crucial dialogue with these governmental and first responder leaders on how we can best deploy and operate the nationwide public safety broadband network."

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 created FirstNet and set out a requirement that its board establish a standing public safety advisory committee to assist it in carrying out its duties and responsibilities. The FirstNet Board at its inaugural meeting in September adopted a resolution designating a subgroup of SAFECOM as its public safety advisory committee, and directed Ginn to work with the Department of Homeland Security to establish the Committee and appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairs of the committee. An announcement regarding the final structure and membership of the PSAC will be forthcoming.