



25 April 2024

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Madam Chairman,

We are writing on behalf of the members of the National Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) to convey our appreciation to you and the other Commissioners for preserving the 4.9 GHz band for public safety. Together, our organizations represent the vast majority of law enforcement officers, police chiefs, and fire fighters in departments large and small in every region of our country.

For these brave men and women that our organizations represent, effective and reliable communication is absolutely vital to their safety and that of the public they serve. In order to best support these critical public safety communication services, we urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to undertake the following measures:

- **Protection of Incumbent 4.9 GHz Licensees:** Incumbent 4.9 GHz licensee operations should be protected and continue without any interference to existing communication networks.
- **Authorization of 4.9 GHz Spectrum Use for NPSBN:** We urge immediate authorization of 4.9 GHz spectrum use within the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). We believe the most efficient and cost-effective way to achieve this goal is to grant a nationwide license to the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet), or similarly alternative means that are found to be procedurally appropriate, which may include the sharing agreement as articulated by the Public Safety Spectrum Alliance (PSSA).
- **Deployment of NPSBN 5G Services:** We call for the most expeditious and least expensive deployment of NPSBN 5G services within the 4.9 GHz band. This should be achieved by leveraging the existing infrastructure and business model provided by the NPSBN contract and law.

Our organizations also are very concerned about ongoing efforts by for-profit companies in the private sector, critical infrastructure operators, and transportation providers that seek to encroach upon public safety's 4.9 GHz spectrum for their own commercial purposes. These efforts are unacceptable to our organizations and our members whose lives literally depend on the reliability

of these communications systems. We urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to reject these efforts.

We also urge the Commission to take swift and definitive action on this matter, so as not to further delay the ongoing evolution of dedicated public safety communications. Decisive action by the FCC is essential to ensure the continued safety and effectiveness of our members who are on the front line and in harm's way.

On behalf of the members of the IACP, IAFF, and FOP, we thank you for taking into consideration our views on this critical issue. If we can provide any additional information to support our position on issues related to the exclusive public safety use of the 4.9 GHz spectrum, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Patrick Yoes  
National President  
Fraternal Order of Police



Wade Carpenter  
President  
International Association of  
Chiefs of Police



Edward A. Kelly  
General President  
International Association of  
Fire Fighters

**cc:** The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission  
The Honorable Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission  
The Honorable Nathan Simington, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission  
The Honorable Anna M. Gomez, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission