

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Office of Inspector General Washington, D.C. 20230

November 10, 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Uzoma Onyieje Board Secretary First Responder Network Authority

FROM:

Andrew Katsaros Principal Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

SUBJECT:

Audit of FirstNet's Efforts for the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network's Technical Design

We are initiating an audit of the First Responder Network Authority's (FirstNet) technical development of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). Our objectives will be to evaluate and assess FirstNet's efforts and progress to develop the technical design aspects for the NPSBN against key technical requirements and standards, the requirements of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, stakeholder requirements, and established performance metrics and milestones.

Our fieldwork will be conducted at FirstNet's headquarters in Reston, VA, FirstNet's technical headquarters located in Boulder, CO, and other locations as needed.

We have scheduled an entrance conference for November 13, 2014, at which time we can discuss our objectives further. Should you have any questions about this audit, please contact me at (202) 482-7859 or Chris Rose, Supervisory Auditor, at (202) 482-5558.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

cc: Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, NTIA TJ Kennedy, Acting General Manager, FirstNet Stuart Kupinsky, Chief Counsel, FirstNet Jason Karp, Deputy Chief Counsel, FirstNet Kathy Smith, Chief Counsel, NTIA Milton Brown, Audit Liaison, NTIA David Swanson, Audit Liaison, NIST