

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20554

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FCC ANNOUNCES FORUM TO PROMOTE ADVANCES IN ACCESSIBLE WIRELESS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Washington D.C. – The FCC today announced it will hold a forum Nov. 7 to promote the latest advances in accessible wireless emergency communications, including text-to-911. The event will engage technology designers, engineers and policy makers to raise awareness of the needs of people with disabilities prior to developing devices and services that can be used in and during emergencies, with the goal of saving more lives and enabling quicker responses to natural and manmade disasters.

What: Accessible Wireless Emergency Communications Forum
Date: Friday, November 7, 2014
Time: 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
Location: FCC Headquarters, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554

Morning session panels will bring together bring together government and disability technology experts to share the latest research and development activities for accessible emergency communications, alerts and notifications.

The afternoon session will include an FCC presentation on the status of its text-to-911 rules, followed by a report from wireless carriers and public safety officials on their progress in rules implementation. Representatives of consumers with disabilities will then discuss their public education and outreach efforts and provide suggestions to government and industry for their roles.

The event will be free and open to the public. Live, captioned video of the event will be available at <u>www.fcc.gov/live</u>.

The meeting site is fully accessible to people using wheelchairs or other mobility aids. Sign language interpreters, open captioning and assistive listening devices will be provided on site. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests should be made as soon as possible and include contact information. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill. Contact <u>fcc504@fcc.gov</u> or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY) for

reasonable accommodation requests, or to request this press release or any other materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format).

For more information please contact Kelly Jones of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at <u>Kelly.Jones@fcc.gov</u> or call (202) 418-7078.

For more news and information about the FCC, please visit: <u>www.fcc.gov</u>.

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