

## STATE OF UTAH

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
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GREG BELL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

June 15, 2012

Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, and
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Mr. Strickling,

The State of Utah has established a working group to formulate a response to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) recent Request for Information (RFI) regarding the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN). The group was coordinated through the Governor's Office of Economic Development and it represents a collaborative effort, including stakeholders representing public safety communications, 9-1-1 dispatch, police/fire, technology services, Native American tribes, economic development, GIS mapping and others. I fully support this working group's response to the RFI.

As we move forward to build the NPSBN, I would encourage NTIA to use Utah as a model for other states to show how this collaborative effort and coordination can lead to more efficient use of the limited monies set aside by Congress for implementation of the state and local grant program. For example, the Utah Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (Utah's SIEC) has been meeting regularly since 2009 to enhance interoperable communications capabilities for public safety. As a result, it has successfully worked across jurisdictional boundaries to leverage existing infrastructure and resources to create a forward-thinking statewide communications interoperability plan.

The work our State has done, through our own self-determination, can serve as a model to other states as we move forward to build a truly interoperable nationwide public safety

network. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to this RFI and look forward to further interactions in support of this important, collaborative effort.

Sincerely, Haren Herbert

Gary R. Herbert Governor