



FCC Proposes Action to Improve Next Generation 911

Proposed Rules Aim to Make NG911 Networks More Reliable and Interoperable

WASHINGTON, March 27, 2025—The Federal Communications Commission today proposed rules to help ensure that emerging Next Generation 911 (NG911) networks are reliable and interoperable, which will help first responders save lives.

The nation is transitioning from legacy 911 technology to NG911, which will use Internet Protocol (IP)-based infrastructure to support new 911 capabilities, including text, video, and data. For NG911 to be fully effective, these networks must safeguard critical components and support the interoperability needed to seamlessly transfer 911 calls and data from one network to another. The Commission has therefore proposed rule changes to both facilitate the NG911 transition and ensure that the transition does not inadvertently create vulnerabilities in critical public safety networks. The proposals balance the Commission's duty to safeguard public safety networks with the needs of industry and state and local 911 authorities, protecting innovation and flexibility for all.

The Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking adopted today seeks comment on proposals to:

- Update the Commission's existing 911 reliability rules to ensure that they apply to service providers that control or operate critical pathways and components in NG911 networks.
- Update the reliability standards for providers of critical NG911 functions to ensure the reliable delivery of 911 traffic to NG911 delivery points.
- Establish NG911 interoperability requirements for the interstate transfer of 911 traffic.
- Modify the certification and oversight mechanisms in the current 911 reliability rules to improve reliability and interoperability in NG911 systems while minimizing burdens on service providers.
- Empower state and local 911 authorities to obtain reliability and interoperability certifications directly from covered 911 service providers, so that 911 authorities can more easily address reliability and interoperability concerns within their jurisdictions.

Action by the Commission March 27, 2025 by Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 25-21). Chairman Carr, Commissioners Starks, Simington, and Gomez approving. Chairman Carr, Commissioners Starks, and Gomez issuing separate statements.

PS Docket No. 21-479, 13-7

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*This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).*