



For Immediate Release
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E9-1-1 INSTITUTE SPONSORS MYSTIC HOMETOWN SECURITY FORUM

The E9-1-1 Institute and Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, APCO-Atlantic Chapter will sponsor a *Hometown Security Forum* on October 30, 2007 in Mystic, CT. The Forum will be held at the request of *Congressman Joe Courtney* who represents Connecticut's Second Congressional District.

"Technologically advanced emergency communications systems, and the people who operate them, are critical to keeping our families and our community's safe in an emergency," said Courtney. *"This conference and the Hometown Security Forum are a great opportunity for public safety officials from all over the northeast to learn more about the developments in technology and issues affecting 9-1-1 emergency communications."*

Congressman Courtney is a member of the *Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus*, which advocates for federal policies affecting 9-1-1 and emergency communications. In addition, he has made supporting E9-1-1 emergency services a priority during his time in Congress by securing critical funding for a 9-1-1 dispatch center for Windham, Connecticut in this year's appropriations process.

The event will include demonstrations of the latest in technology, a panel discussion with experts in emergency communications and a special **911 for Kids** ceremony honoring young heroes who used 9-1-1 to save lives.

"The Hometown Security Forum will provide an exciting opportunity for discussion along with audience participation regarding enhanced emergency communication and community preparedness through the adoption of new technologies," said Gregory Rohde, Executive Director of the E9-1-1 Institute. *"Emergency communications system can not be taken for granted. This event will assist in identifying what works well and the challenges the future will present. The assembly of talent and information at the event will provide all participants with the necessary knowledge to address vital communications needs in their community."*

Companies sponsoring, exhibiting and demonstrating their technologies include Intrado, Mutualink, PlantCML, Positron, XTEND, SyTech, and Telex Communications. Participants for the Technology Panel discussion and demonstration include; Robert Gojanovich, HBF Group, Inc; Michael Amarosa, TruePosition; Joe Boucher, Mutualink; Paul McLaren, Positron Public Safety; William (Bill) Purcell, SyTech Corporation, Ernie Burns, Telex Communications and William I. Schwartz, XTEND Communications Corp.

The policy panel will discuss issues relating to 9-1-1 and Internet telephony (VoIP), location accuracy and funding for E9-1-1 technology. Participants on the policy panel discussion will be Michael Amarosa senior vice president of public affairs for TruePosition; Jeff Robertson, executive director of the 9-1-1 Industry Alliance; Ronald Bonneau, director of Illinois' Southcom Combined Dispatch Center and First Vice President for NENA; Willis Carter, President for APCO, John Dejung, Director of the Minneapolis 91—1 Center, Paul Fahey, Government Affairs Manager, PlantCML and Jeff Vannais, East Hartford Public Safety Communications.

The event will be held at the **Mystic Marriott Hotel and Conference Center** from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m., starting with a luncheon and the 9-1-1 For Kids Hero Ceremony.

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About the E9-1-1 Institute. The E9-1-1 Institute (www.e911institute.org) is a not-for-profit organization, which provides administrative and policy support to the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. Gregory L. Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, serves as the E9-1-1 Institute's Executive Director. The Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus is co-chaired by: **Senator Hillary Clinton** (D-NY), **Senator Ted Stevens** (R-AK), **Representative Anna Eshoo** (D-CA), and **Representative John Shimkus** (R-IL).