



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Carla Anderson  
Telephone: 202.498.6936

### MEDIA ADVISORY

#### **E9-1-1 INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES 9-1-1 HONOR AWARDS CATEGORIES CALLS FOR NOMINATIONS**

WASHINGTON--The E9-1-1 Institute has announced the categories for the 2008 **"9-1-1 Honor Awards Gala"** and issued a call for nominations. The Gala will take place on **Tuesday, March 4, 2008** in Washington D.C.

Every year, the E9-1-1 Institute, in conjunction with the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus, hold an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. to honor heroes and leaders in the 9-1-1 field. The deadline to submit nominations is **February 1, 2008**.

The event will be hosted jointly by the E9-1-1 Institute and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA). The Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus Co-Chairs **Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton** (D-NY), **Senator Ted Stevens** (R-AK), **Representative Anna Eshoo** (D-CA), and **Representative John Shimkus** (R-IL) have been invited to present the awards.

*"It is an honor for our organizations to recognize those individuals who have contributed so much to the safety and protection of our country,"* said Gregory L. Rohde, Executive Director of the E9-1-1 Institute. *"Every year, the nominations reveal the true heroism, expertise and dedication of those whose job it is to save lives, and of those who save lives in the course of everyday life."*

*"The 9-1-1 telecommunicator is truly the first, first responder. They are the unseen heroes who coordinate effective emergency response and ensure that critical help is provided to those in need, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year,"* said NENA President Jason Barbour, ENP. *"It is a privilege to have this opportunity to recognize all of those involved who make our 9-1-1 system the life saving safety net so many have come to rely on."*

**The E9-1-1 Institute** is a non-profit organization which exists to support the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus and assist in promoting public education on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. The Institute provides informational and administrative support to members of the Congressional Caucus as they pursue their mission of improving 9-1-1 emergency communications. Nominations may be submitted through the E9-1-1 Institute website: [www.e911institute.org](http://www.e911institute.org)

**NENA** is The Voice of 9-1-1™. Now celebrating its 26th year, NENA was established to promote implementation and awareness of 9-1-1 as North America's universal emergency number. NENA has grown to become the leading professional non-profit organization dedicated solely to 9-1-1 emergency communications issues. NENA serves its more than 7,000 members in 47 chapters across the U.S., Canada and Mexico through policy advocacy, establishment of technical and operational standards, certification programs and a broad spectrum of educational offerings. Find out more at [www.nena.org](http://www.nena.org).

**\* Categories & Logistics:**

**2008 9-1-1 Honor Awards Categories**

9-1-1 Call-Taker/Dispatcher Award: This award honors the “First responders”—the **9-1-1 call-takers** and **dispatchers** who are on the front line every. Candidates for this honor should have a proven track record of service in the field and a reputation for going the extra mile on behalf of emergency callers.

Citizen in Action: The Citizen in Action award honors **someone** who demonstrated **exceptional bravery** and **heroism** to save a life in a critical time using 9-1-1.

First Responder Award: The First Responder Award recognizes those individuals that 9-1-1 people call—e.g. **Law Enforcement, Fire Rescue** and or **Emergency Medical Service providers**—for their professionalism, initiative, creativity or diligence in assisting a person reporting and/or experiencing an emergency situation.

Government Leader Award (Federal): This award recognizes the **federal government leader** that has done the most to **advance the capabilities of 9-1-1** emergency communications.

Government Leader Award (Local): This award recognizes the *state or local government leader* that has done the most to *advance the capabilities of 9-1-1* emergency communications.

Industry Professional Award: The Industry Professional Award honors an **individual** or **organization** in the **commercial sector** that has demonstrated exceptional contributions towards the advancement of emergency 9-1-1 communications.

9-1-1 Technician Award: This award recognizes the Technology Support staff—e.g. **Information Technology, GIS and other technical personnel within a 9-1-1 authority** or **jurisdiction** whose tireless efforts make available and maintain the critical technology systems necessary to answer, process and respond to emergency calls.

Outstanding 9-1-1 Call Center Award: This award recognizes a **state, regional** or **local 9-1-1 program** for its excellence in key emergency communications areas ranging from the handling of emergency situations reported to 9-1-1 to the deployment and management of new technology.

**To Submit a Nomination Visit the E9-1-1 Institute Website: [www.e911institute.org](http://www.e911institute.org)**