



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA ADVISORY

E9-1-1 INSTITUTE, NENA, AND APCO KICK OFF NATIONAL 9-1-1 EDUCATION MONTH

WASHINGTON, DC - The E9-1-1 Institute, the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) and the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International will kick off **National 9-1-1 Education Month** by hosting a “**9-1-1 Block Party**” in conjunction with the District of Columbia’s Office of Unified Communications Center. The event will take place on Monday, March 30 from 9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. at Martin Luther King Elementary School, located at 3200 6th St. SE in Washington, DC. The event is part of month-long drive to encourage educators, parents, public officials, and telecommunications industry leaders to join the national effort to educate all Americans on the importance and proper use of the 9-1-1 system.

The 9-1-1 Block Party will begin with a press conference at 9:30 A.M., after which local students will have the opportunity to learn about 9-1-1 and emergency response in an interactive atmosphere featuring a fire department ladder truck, a 9-1-1 Simulator, the Hazard House, an EMS vehicle, an Emergency Management Mobile Command Post, police horses, a police motorcycle, K-9 Unit, harbor control and a police car. Attendees can expect to learn safety tips from McGruff the Crime Dog.

Gregory L. Rohde, Executive Director of the E9-1-1 Institute, said: “The need for promoting 9-1-1 education is never-ending. It is imperative that all political leaders, educators, parents, and others in positions of civic responsibility make an extra effort this month to do something to promote awareness of 9-1-1 and its role to keep our communities safe and secure.”

On March 10, 2008, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 537, sponsored by Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus Co-Chairs Representative Anna Eshoo (D-CA) and Representative John Shimkus (R-IL), which endorsed **April as National 9-1-1 Education Month**. Eight national organizations then formed the “**The Coalition for 9-1-1 Education**,” with the mission of promoting and delivering 9-1-1 education to all age groups.

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About the E9-1-1 Institute: 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 E9-1-1 Institute provides informational and administrative support to members of the Congressional Caucus as they pursue their mission of improving 9-1-1 emergency communications. Find out more at www.e911institute.org

About NENA: **NENA is *The Voice of 9-1-1***[™]. NENA promotes implementation and awareness of 9-1-1 as North America's universal emergency number. NENA is the leading professional non-profit organization dedicated solely to 9-1-1 emergency communications issues. NENA serves its nearly 7,000 members in 48 chapters across the U.S., Canada and Mexico through policy advocacy, establishment of technical and operational standards, promotion of Next Generation 9-1-1 services, certification programs and a broad spectrum of educational offerings. Find out more at www.nena.org.

About APCO: The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International is the world's oldest and largest professional organization dedicated to the enhancement of public safety communications. APCO International serves the professional needs of its 15,000 members worldwide by creating a platform for setting professional standards, addressing professional issues and providing education, products and services for people who manage, operate, maintain and supply the communications systems used by police, fire and emergency medical dispatch agencies throughout the world. For more information, visit www.apcointl.org.