

**CONGRESSIONAL E9-1-1 CAUCUS ANNOUNCES ROUNDTABLE ON THE  
STATUS OF E9-1-1 AND THE YEAR AHEAD**

**Washington, D.C.** – The co-chairs of the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus, Senator Conrad Burns (R-MT), Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY), Representative John Shimkus (R-IL), and Representative Anna Eshoo (D-CA), announced that they will host a roundtable to examine the status of E9-1-1 and emergency communications policy issues for the coming year. The roundtable will be held January 28, 2004 and will feature presentations from E9-1-1 experts and discussion of issues facing E9-1-1 implementation and emergency communications issues.

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| <b>WHAT:</b>  | <b>E9-1-1 CAUCUS ROUNDTABLE</b>             |
| <b>WHERE:</b> | <b>628 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING</b>   |
| <b>WHEN:</b>  | <b>JANUARY 28, 2004, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM</b> |

“The purpose of this roundtable is to give our Caucus members an opportunity to sit down with experts and operators who provide E9-1-1 services and discuss where they are today with respect to implementing E9-1-1 and the issues we should be addressing in Congress for the coming year,” said Senator Burns. “While we remain confident that the legislation we introduced last year to provide grant funding for E9-1-1 deployment will pass soon, we know that legislation is only one step among many to advance access to E9-1-1 throughout the country,” said Senator Burns (R-MT).

“Our ability to prevent and respond to emergencies remains far short of the expectations most Americans have when they dial 9-1-1 from their cell phones,” said Senator Clinton (D-NY). “The legislation the E9-1-1 Caucus has been working on in the Senate and House would commit millions of critically needed dollars to our nation’s emergency response capacities. I look forward to hearing during this first caucus roundtable about many of the issues facing our first responders and public safety answering points.”

“The E9-1-1 Conference will be a great opportunity for us to share information about what we’ve done, what the challenges are ahead, and what more we need to do to insure that people have access to emergency assistance no matter where they are,” added Rep. Shimkus (R-IL).

“After working on E9-1-1 issues since 1996, I’m very pleased that the House has passed this critical legislation and I’m hopeful the Senate will act soon,” Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA) said. “Passing legislation is just the first step. This roundtable represents a key opportunity to discuss how we can strengthen our collective efforts and ensure that the life-saving technologies our E9-1-1 legislation promotes are fully implemented.”

For further information about the January Roundtable event, please contact the E9-1-1 Institute at [www.e911institute.org](http://www.e911institute.org) or e-mail the Executive Director of the E9-1-1 Institute, Gregory L. Rohde, at [glr@e-copernicus.com](mailto:glr@e-copernicus.com).

**About the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus.** Founded in 2003, the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus is the only bi-partisan, bi-cameral organization dedicated exclusively to emergency communications issues: the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Caucus is to educate lawmakers, constituents, and communities about the importance of citizen activated emergency response systems.

The goals of the E9-1-1 Caucus are:

- Advance the implementation of E9-1-1 systems that automatically provides a callers phone number and location when a 9-1-1 number is called;
- Advance 9-1-1 as the emergency number for use by the public;
- Promoting citizen-activated emergency response systems;
- Ensuring 9-1-1 systems, networks, and operators are properly funded; and
- Elevating emergency communications issues within all branches of government at the federal, state, and local levels.