

## **State of Arizona – State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) 2.0 Project Abstract**

On August 15, 2017, Arizona Governor Doug Ducey notified First Responder's Network Authority (FirstNet) that Arizona's intention was to "opt-in" and permit FirstNet/AT&T to deploy the network within the state. The State of Arizona (State) is seeking funding to continue programmatic activities in support of the deployment of the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) by FirstNet and their partner, AT&T, Inc. The state's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Arizona FirstNet efforts is Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Chung of the Arizona Department of Public Safety. The Public Safety Broadband Network program manager for the SLIGP grant is Karen Ziegler, a contractor with the Arizona Department of Administration. Together, Lt. Col Chung and Ms. Ziegler will continue the following allowable activities to educate stakeholders on FirstNet in the state of Arizona.

**Governance and Policy:** Currently, the State has an ad hoc Public Safety Broadband Network Working Group (Working Group) of approximately 131 public safety stakeholders representing all public safety disciplines at all levels of government, including Tribal, who have provided guidance and input into the State's planning process under SLIGP. The Public Safety Broadband Program has been working with the Governor's Office to reestablish a public safety communications Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC). The SIEC would be comprised of state, local and tribal government personnel from across public safety disciplines, including law, fire-rescue, emergency medical services, emergency management, and public health. The State will work under the guidance of the Working Group or SIEC to develop model policies, procedures, and Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) that can be easily customized to meet the needs of individual agencies interested in sharing data. Also, planning efforts through the Working Group or the SIEC will enable the identification of additional primary and extended primary public safety users for the NPSBN. In addition, the state will continue planning efforts to help FirstNet gain inclusion on applicable statewide contract vehicles.

**Technical guidance:** As the network deployment moves forward and adoption rates increase, the State anticipates there will be a need for public safety agencies to transition communication operations onto the network. The NPSBN is meant to serve as a mission critical data network initially so agencies can access data necessary to their mission. Likewise, State program staff will work with public safety stakeholders to identify any existing critical coverage gaps. The State will then work with AT&T to verify the gaps and develop an appropriate mitigation plan. The state will ensure policies align with the technical needs of the program through inclusion of technical experts throughout the process. This includes contracting with Mission Critical Partners (MCP), a consulting group with extensive experience assisting states with their public safety broadband network planning.