



*Technology Briefs are published periodically by NPSTC and its member organizations to highlight awareness and provide knowledge on technology issues of importance to the first responder community.*

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## **9/11 Working Group Initiative: How Have Communications Changed in Your Agency Since 9/11?**

The year 2011 marks the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and there will be many memorial events planned to remember that event. In response to that tragedy, the nation has made many improvements in all areas of public safety including public safety telecommunications. In an effort suggested by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) and developed by interested public safety volunteers around the country with the assistance of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), there are three initiatives underway to describe how much has been accomplished in public safety communications since September 11, 2001.

**Goal:** In partnership with OEC, the 9/11 Working Group wants to document and publish a comprehensive catalogue of achievements that showcase historical progress. It will celebrate local achievements and provide a snapshot of accomplishments in the last 10 years.

**Case Studies:** The 9/11 Working Group will publish a series of five case studies based on SAFECOM's Interoperability Continuum that capture and communicate emergency communications success stories and lessons learned. The case studies will illustrate each of the five lanes of the Interoperability Continuum with emphasis on showcasing a new capability, not a jurisdiction, such as regional planning or Communications Unit Leader (COML) training.

**The Story:** The 9/11 Working Group will document "The Story" of interoperability over the past decade to clearly demonstrate how the public safety community has successfully and effectively improved the capacity for interoperability across the nation. This documentation will be distributed to key leaders at the state and local levels.

**Timeline:** The 9/11 Working Group will document and publish a timeline illustrating the achievements that showcase improvements in interoperable communications over the last 10 years. SAFECOM will document and publish a federal view of the timeline while NPSTC is hosting an Internet-based national timeline for stakeholders from all over the country to post and celebrate local achievements. The timeline will provide a snapshot of

accomplishments since September 11, 2001.

**Here's How You Can Share Your Achievements on the Timeline:** To add your event to the 9/11 timeline, go to: <http://www.dipity.com/timeline/Public-Safety-Interoperability-Timeline/>. Join Dipity to participate. Click on the slider at the far left to add an event. A box opens on the screen enabling you to add the following information:

**Title** = Name of Event or Milestone.

**Date** = Enter day and/or month and year of Milestone.

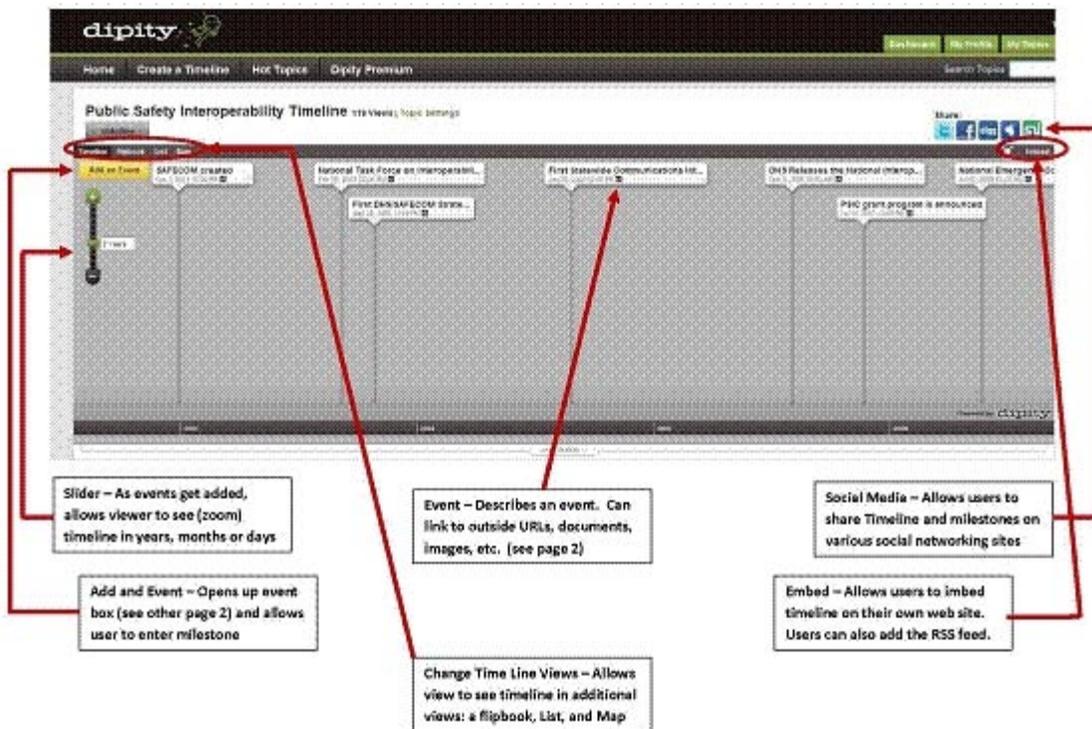
**Description** = Add a few sentences about the Milestone such as names of organizations that participated and why Milestone was significant.

**Picture** = Option to add a photo related to Milestone, which could be photo of participants, cover page of document, logo of organization, etc.

**Link** = Option to add a URL related to Milestone. You can link to documents (e.g., Governance Charter), press releases, or whatever helps provide more information about our Milestone.

**Location** = Enter the jurisdiction where the Milestone took place (could be a city, county, tribal, or state location). The event is automatically geocoded and viewable on a map.

**Video URL** = Option to add video of Milestone. It could be a video from the event (exercise, training), press from the event, or other.



**Thank You for Your Participation:** The 9/11 Working Group thanks you for your participation in this important and commemorative event. Public safety has worked hard at all levels of government to create a prepared nation. Share your contribution and achievements today.

NPSTC is a federation of organizations whose mission is to improve public safety communications and interoperability through collaborative leadership.

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American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials | American Radio Relay League | Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies | Association of Public Safety Communications Officials | Forestry Conservation Communications Association | International Association of Chiefs of Police | International Associate of Emergency Managers | International Association of Fire Chiefs | International Municipal Signal Association | National Association of State Chief Information Officers | National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials | National Association of State Foresters | National Association of State Technology Directors | National Sheriffs' Association | National Emergency Number Association

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