

NG9-1-1 Institute

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NEXT GEN 9-1-1 INSTITUTE ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS 2013 9-1-1 HONORS AWARDS CALL FOR ENTRIES NOW OPEN

Washington, DC – The NG9-1-1 Institute annually seeks nominations for individuals and organizations that have made exceptional contributions to improving and advancing 9-1-1 services. The 2,000 member organization, in conjunction with the Congressional Next Gen 9-1-1 Caucus it supports, is proud to accept entries for the 2013 9-1-1 Honors Awards.

For nearly a decade the Next Gen 9-1-1 Institute has celebrated the work of professionals in emergency communications; those whose effort and dedication to public safety reflect the growing scope and importance of 9-1-1 service delivery, ranking them among the "best of the best".

This year's awards ceremony will reflect on the tenth anniversary of the Next Gen 9-1-1 Caucus and the Institute. The awards ceremony will take place Tuesday, March 19th, 2013 at the 9-1-1 Honors Gala. The Co-chairs of the Congressional Next Gen 9-1-1 Caucus have been invited to present the awards.

Heroism and leadership activities throughout the year of 2012 will be considered for the awards. Nominations are being accepted for the following categories:

- <u>Citizen in Action Award:</u> The Citizen in Action Award recognizes someone (an individual or group) who demonstrated exceptional bravery and heroism to respond in a critical time using 9-1-1. This award honors a citizen(s) who has taken the initiative to help in a crisis.
- <u>First Responder Award:</u> The First Responder Award recognizes professional first responder(s) such as Law Enforcement, Fire Rescue and or Emergency Medical Service (EMS) professionals (an individual or group)—for their professionalism, initiative, creativity or diligence in the work place or specifically for assisting a person reporting and/or experiencing an emergency situation. 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.
- **9-1-1 Professional Award:** The 9-1-1 Professional Award recognizes those individuals who work as a 9-1-1 call-takers dispatchers, managers/supervisors, trainers and consultants for their professionalism, initiative, creativity, or diligence in assisting a person reporting and/or experiencing an emergency situation or for exceptional dedication and work to the improvement of 9-1-1 services in the workplace. Candidates for this award should have a proven record of experience and a reputation for going above and beyond on behalf of emergency callers.
- Government Leader Award: The Government Leader Award recognizes the Federal, State, or Local Government Leader that has displayed the greatest effort to advance the capabilities of 9-1-1 emergency communications.

- Industry / Technology Professional Private / Public Sector Award: The Industry / Technology Professional Private/Public Sector Award recognizes an individual, group or organization in the private sector (including vendors, standards organizations and the academic / research community) that has demonstrated exceptional contributions toward the advancement of emergency 9-1-1 communications. In addition, this award category includes 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 / Program Award: The Outstanding 9-1-1 Call Center /
 Program Award recognizes a 9-1-1 call center, emergency dispatch center and / or state or
 regional 9-1-1 program for overall excellence in serving the public including the handling of
 emergency situations reported to 9-1-1 and the deployment and management of new
 technology. This award may also recognize the institution/agency for innovative hiring, training
 and employee recognition programs and/or an innovative and visionary plan to enhance future
 viability of public emergency communications systems.
- 9-1-1 Education / Awareness / Outreach Award: The 9-1-1 Education Award recognizes an individual, organization, company, program or any other effort(s) to coordinate and promote education and awareness for 9-1-1 education. This award will not be measured on the size of budget, but on the creativity, innovativeness of outreach activities and efforts, number of citizens and officials reached along with the ease of replicating the model of the efforts. This award can also recognize press/media and/or entertainment individuals or organizations that have helped to improve public understanding and support for 9-1-1 emergency communications.

The submission form and instructions can be submitted online at www.ng911institute.org. All nominations must be received by Monday January 28, 2013 at Midnight Eastern Standard Time. Nominees do not need to be a member of the Institute nor do the person who submits the nomination. A committee of NG9-1-1 Institute members will review each nomination and select the winners who will be invited to attend the 10th Annual 9-1-1 Honors Gala in Washington, DC on March 19, 2013.

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About the NG9-1-1 Institute: The NG9-1-1 Institute (<u>www.ng911institute.org</u>) is a not-for-profit organization, which supports the mission of the Congressional NextGen 9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the NG9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of NextGen 9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional NextGen 9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on NG9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. The Congressional NextGen 9-1-1 Caucus is co-chaired by: **Senator Amy Klobuchar** (D-MN), **Senator Richard Burr** (R-NC), **Representative Anna Eshoo** (D-CA), and **Representative John Shimkus** (R-IL).