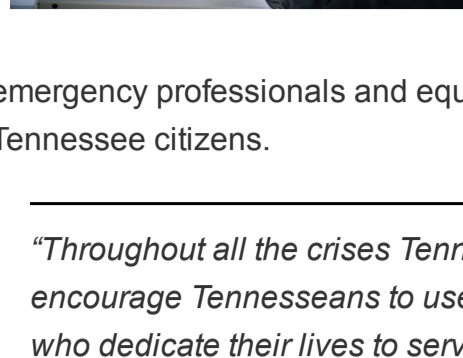




April 2021

TDCI HONORS TENNESSEE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATORS DURING PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK



The Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance (TDCI) and the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB) are celebrating the second full week of April (April 11-17) as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. This week honors the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment and render life-saving assistance to Tennessee citizens.

"Throughout all the crises Tennessee has faced over the past year, I encourage Tennesseans to use this time to celebrate and thank those who dedicate their lives to serving the public," said Governor Bill Lee. "Our dispatchers are always there to answer your call, providing service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year."

The TECB plays a crucial role in emergency communications by assisting emergency communications districts in the area of management, operations and accountability. In 2020, the TECB provided 1,784 hours of in-person training and 16,243 hours of online training to 1,767 professionals.

To view the TECB's Public Safety Telecommunicators Week blog post from Executive Director Curtis Sutton, click [here](#).



Click on the video above to view a special thank you to our telecommunicators from Governor Bill Lee.

TECB SUNSET EXTENDED, SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

The Tennessee General Assembly has passed the TECB's Sunset bill which extends the Board to June 30, 2025. The bill recently passed both the House and Senate chambers and was then signed by Governor Bill Lee. The TECB would like to thank the General Assembly and Governor Lee for the Board's extension. For more information please click [here](#).



NEXTGEN UPDATE



Director of Technology
Eddie Burchell

Project Updates: There are 106 PSAPs on the new AT&T ESI Network and more are scheduled. No changes to the Text-to-911 and Call Handling as a Service (CHaaS or hosted controller) projects have been reported.

In keeping with the TECB's Policy 9, Alternate Routing Plans must be reviewed and updated annually. Watch for an email with information concerning your ARPs to come soon. If any changes need to be made simply reply to the email.

There have been some changes in positions within some of the local districts recently. As a reminder, please inform the TECB of any changes so we can maintain the most accurate contact information. This can be crucial during an emergency or disaster.

The spring weather season this year has already been turbulent. This is a good time to check generator fuel levels and battery conditions as more storms are expected.

INDUSTRY NEWS

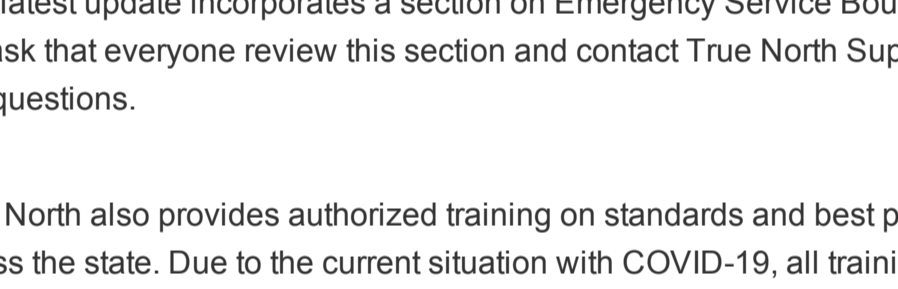
Bill Worth \$15B in NG911 Funding Waiting to Be Passed

On March 11, 2021, the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee presented the Leading Infrastructure for Tomorrow's America Act ([LIFT America Act](#)), which includes \$15 billion in funding for the advancement of Next Generation 911 (NG911).

If passed by the U.S. House and Senate, this bill would distribute grants for the deployment and implementation of NG911 services throughout the country. The [Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials](#) (APCO) stated that the NG911 portion of the bill contains many crucial necessities, including promoting interoperability and building significant resources for cybersecurity. Meanwhile, the [National Emergency Number Association](#) (NENA) is enthusiastic to work with Congress to adopt practical solutions to 911 infrastructure problems. However, apprehension was expressed that some of the provisions in the bill could, "complicate and delay NG911 deployments."

The bill is co-sponsored by Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) and Health Subcommittee Chairwoman Anna G. Eshoo (D-Calif.). Pallone and Eshoo have remained particularly reliable partners with the public-safety community. They believe this legislation is essential to benefit 911 professionals and the public they serve.

Along with the Next Generation 911 Act of 2019, the LIFT America Act would encourage more accessible and interoperable 911 services that enable emergency callers to send text messages, images and videos to the 911 system in times of emergency. Passage of this bill is pivotal in modernizing the nation's emergency communications infrastructure.



True North is your authoritative source for implementation support and questions related to GIS for NG911 in our state. If you need assistance with any GIS-related issues, please send an e-mail to support@tingeo.com.

The current version of the GIS Data Standards for NG911 can be found [here](#). This latest update incorporates a section on Emergency Service Boundaries. We ask that everyone review this section and contact True North Support with any questions.

True North also provides authorized training on standards and best practices across the state. Due to the current situation with COVID-19, all training is currently on hold. Please visit the [training section](#) of the TECB website to see updated information and to find dates and locations for upcoming courses near you.

Vexcel Statewide Imagery Now Available

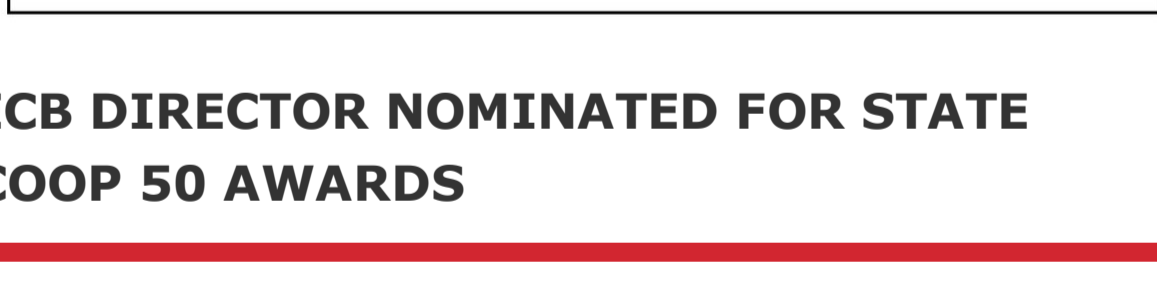
Local copies of the Vexcel Imagery are now available for the ECDs at no cost. Please contact your regional GIS analysts on how to receive this imagery.

The Vexcel imagery has a resolution of 20 cm/8 inch and is a mix of leaf-on and leaf-off conditions. The statewide imagery update cycle is scheduled once every two years.

Please contact your regional GIS analysts, Andrew Griswold (East) and Ryan Pittenger (West), with any questions you may have about the Vexcel Imagery and about the types of mapping services we can provide for you.

Andrew.Griswold@tn.gov
Regional GIS Analyst (East)
Office: 615-532-6519

Ryan.Pittenger@tn.gov
Regional GIS Analyst (West)
Office: 731-421-6819



TECB DIRECTOR NOMINATED FOR STATE SCOOP 50 AWARDS



TECB Executive Director
Curtis Sutton

Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB) Executive Director Curtis Sutton has been nominated in the State Cybersecurity Leader of the Year category in the 2021 StateScoop 50 Awards! Now, he needs your vote to help him win. Please take 15 seconds to cast [your vote](#) for Curtis.

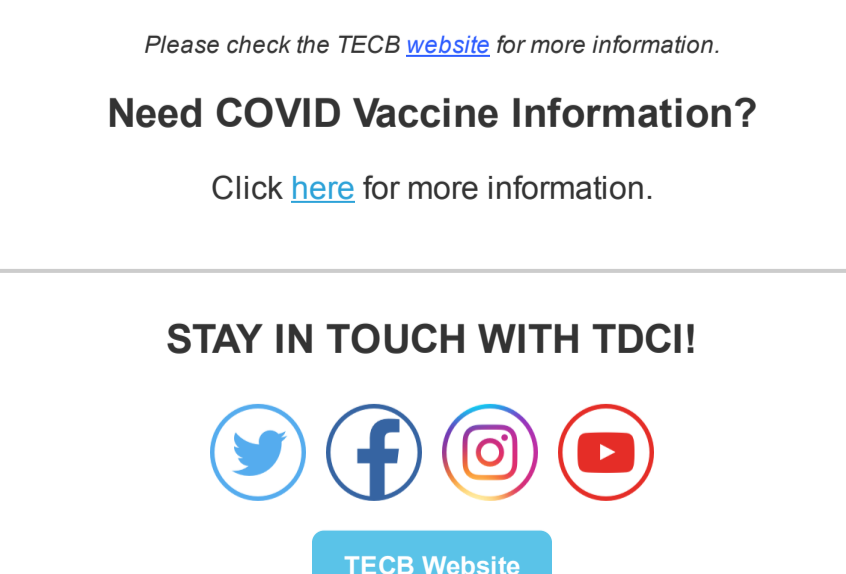
After clicking on the [link](#), scroll to the State Cybersecurity Leader of the Year Section, click on Curtis' picture and click "vote."

Sponsored by state and local government technology magazine StateScoop, the 2021 StateScoop 50 Awards honor the best and the brightest who make state government more efficient and effective. These awards celebrate the outstanding achievements of our peers and acknowledge their tireless efforts to make a positive impact in the government IT community and in public service.

TECB Executive Director Sutton's nomination for the State Cybersecurity Leader of the Year award is well-deserved because of his passion for serving Tennessee's emergency communications professionals. His nomination speaks to his proven leadership.

Cast your [vote](#) for TECB Executive Director Curtis Sutton today! Voting ends April 16th.

UPCOMING MEETING AND INFORMATION



TECB Meeting and Information

Board Meeting

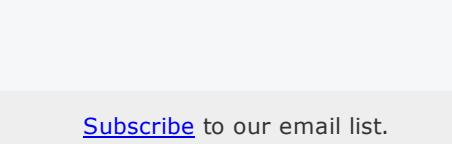
Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 9:30 AM (CST)

Please check the [TECB website](#) for more information.

Need COVID Vaccine Information?

Click [here](#) for more information.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH TDCI!



TECB Website

AUTHORIZATION # 335334

About the Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance: Fostering fair marketplaces, public safety, and consumer education that promote the success of individuals and businesses while serving as innovative leaders. Our divisions include the State Fire Marshal's Office, Insurance, Securities, Regulatory Boards, Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, Tennessee Emergency Communications Board and TennCare Oversight.

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