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## Christie Administration Secures \$39.6 Million Federal Grant to Improve Technology Infrastructure

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*Grant will fund Wireless Broadband Network Project to provide first responders, law enforcement and emergency management professionals with state-of-the-art technology in seven New Jersey counties*

**Trenton, NJ** - Governor Chris Christie today welcomed the announcement that New Jersey has been awarded a \$39.6 million federal grant to put in place a state-of-the-art public safety wireless broadband network in support of first responders, law enforcement and emergency management professionals.

"This grant accelerates the State's overall plan of providing first responders with the information technology tools they need to effectively communicate vital data during an emergency situation," said Governor Christie. "Once operational, the network will provide real-time access to critical data, ultimately improving the ability of our public safety community to save lives, reduce injuries, and protect New Jersey families."

The grant, awarded as part of the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, will provide \$39.6 million in support of the New Jersey Office of Information Technology's Broadband Network Project.

The project will encompass 1,487 sq. miles, seven counties and 4.5 million New Jerseyans, and follows the State's recently received conditional waiver from the Federal Communications Commission to utilize the 700 MHz public safety broadband spectrum in order to spearhead the deployment of a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network.

"With the governor's support we were able to compete for and secure a grant that will enable the state to improve its radio interoperability posture," said Adel Ebeid, CTO, State of New Jersey. "We look forward to working closely with the State Police and Office of Homeland Security to build out a wireless network that addresses their communication needs."

Examples of advanced services enabled by the network include streaming critical patient data from paramedics to hospital personnel; field access to records management systems for criminal, fingerprint, and mug shot information; mobile access for firefighters to building blueprints and infrastructure diagrams; and video applications to improve situational awareness at incident command posts.

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