

FCC FACT SHEET*

Implementing Kari's Law and Section 506 of RAY BAUM'S Act

Report and Order - PS Docket Nos. 18-261 and 17-239, and GN Docket No. 11-117

Background:

Last year, the President signed into law two statutes to improve 911:

(1) **Kari's Law** applies to multi-line telephone systems (MLTS), which are telephone systems often used by office buildings, campuses, and hotels. Kari's Law requires MLTS that are manufactured, imported, offered for first sale or lease, first sold or leased, or installed after February 16, 2020 to enable users to dial 911 directly, without having to dial a prefix to reach an outside line, and to provide for notification (e.g., to a front desk or security office) when a 911 call is made.

(2) **RAY BAUM'S Act** requires the Commission to consider adopting rules to ensure that a "dispatchable location" is conveyed with 911 calls, regardless of the technological platform used, so that 911 call centers will receive the caller's location automatically and can dispatch responders more quickly. "Dispatchable location" is "the street address of the calling party, and additional information such as room number, floor number, or similar information necessary to adequately identify the location of the calling party."

If adopted, the Report and Order would implement these laws and improve Americans' access to emergency services.

What the Report and Order Would Do:

- Adopt rules to implement the 911 direct dial and notification requirements of Kari's Law. The rules are intended to provide clarity and specificity regarding the statutory requirements and to enable covered entities to meet those requirements cost-effectively.
- Adopt flexible and technologically neutral dispatchable location requirements for MLTS and for providers of fixed telephony service, interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services, Telecommunications Relay Services, and mobile texting services. The Report and Order would not amend existing 911 call location rules applicable to wireless providers.
- Apply dispatchable location rules to outbound-only interconnected VoIP services, just as they apply to other interconnected VoIP services.
- Consolidate the Commission's 911 rules from multiple rule parts into a single rule part and streamline the rules in some instances.

* This document is being released as part of a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding. Any presentations or views on the subject expressed to the Commission or its staff, including by email, must be filed in PS Docket Nos. 18-261 and 17-239, and GN Docket No. 11-117, which may be accessed via the Electronic Comment Filing System (<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>). Before filing, participants should familiarize themselves with the Commission's ex parte rules, including the general prohibition on presentations (written and oral) on matters listed on the Sunshine Agenda, which is typically released a week prior to the Commission's meeting. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1200 *et seq.*