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NPSTC Criticizes CTIA’s 911 Location-Accuracy Petition

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council has criticized CTIA’s petition for reconsideration asking the FCC to reconsider its 911 z-axis, or vertical, rules and deployment timelines. The trade group made the request in a petition for reconsideration that cited testing delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the inability of technologies to be ready to meet the FCC-mandated location-accuracy metric (TR Daily, Sept. 29). “NPSTC is disappointed that CTIA and the wireless carriers are again trying to delay implementation of the roadmap for location services initiated in 2014,” NPSTC Chair Ralph Haller said in a statement. “CTIA states in its petition for reconsideration that, ‘wireless providers are delivering increasingly accurate location information with wireless 9-1-1 calls.’ While that assertion is debatable, even if somewhat true, the carriers have had six years fully to meet the z axis requirements. The FCC should reject this CTIA petition for reconsideration, retain the April 3, 2021, deadline, and initiate enforcement actions for carriers not meeting the 2021 requirements. This is a life and death issue that has already taken too long to implement.”

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