

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Natchitoches Parish Communications District  
Willis Carter, Director  
(318) 238-8301  
[wcarter@natchitoches911.org](mailto:wcarter@natchitoches911.org)



## **Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 Emergency Operations Center.....**

**Natchitoches, LA., November 18, 2015** — In providing an update on the new NATCOM Emergency Communications facility project, 9-1-1 Director Willis Carter said that currently the project is in a holding pattern awaiting authorization from the State of Louisiana to proceed with the construction phase of the project. The project is largely reliant on state “Capital Outlay” funding. Although the district has entered into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the state, and has been granted both cash and non-cash lines of credit, the remaining funds allocated to the project must be converted to cash before bidding and subsequent construction can begin. In August of this year the communications district sent the state notice that planning had been completed and requested authorization to proceed with construction phase of the project citing the desire to issue bids for construction in the spring of 2016. Construction is expected to take approximately 12-months to complete.

The NATCOM facility will be centered on the development of a combined public safety emergency communications/emergency operations center which will be a state-of-the-art hardened facility housing emergency 9-1-1 call-taking and dispatching functions. The communications district’s goal is to bring the critical communications operations of all of the primary public safety agencies into the facility forming a cohesive emergency communications and operations center to better serve the citizens and visitors of Natchitoches Parish. Communications District officials recently traveled to Evangeline parish to observe construction progress on a similar project in that parish. Readers are encouraged to visit [www.natchitoches911.org](http://www.natchitoches911.org) for additional information on the NATCOM project.

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**About the Natchitoches Parish Communications District (Natchitoches 9-1-1)** *Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 is committed to providing fast, efficient and effective access to emergency public safety services for all the citizens and visitors to Natchitoches Parish. Since 1988 the “District” has served in a pivotal role ensuring the safety of residents and visitors to Natchitoches Parish by providing the support services, which connects the citizens experiencing emergencies with emergency services via the use of one, easy to remember and simple to use 3-digit number, 9-1-1. The Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 District provides the equipment and systems necessary to receive 9-1-1 calls from the nearly 40,000 residents of the parish, as well as the ever-increasing numbers of visitors to the area. We are proud to serve as “Natchitoches Parish’s Gateway to Public Safety Services”.*

Find out more at [www.natchitoches911.org](http://www.natchitoches911.org)