



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Communications District Announces Start of Construction of Public Safety Emergency Communications Facility...**

**Natchitoches, LA – March 7, 2017 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – Commissioner Micky Dove, Chairman of the Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 Communications District, announced today the start of construction on the Parish’s Emergency Communications facility. *Dove said that “Emergency Service Agencies will take a giant leap well into the future with the state-of-the-art equipment we plan to install and use. Co-Locating all aspects of emergency communications services in Natchitoches Parish under one roof should produce a stronger sense of solidarity; both for the men and women providing that service and for the public. Commissioner Victor Jones, Building Committee chairman added “Having everyone in the same building will also make training, coordination of efforts, and management of the entire process much more efficient and effective. In the end, the residents and visitors of Natchitoches Parish will benefit.*

The 8,400 square foot, 3.2 million dollar state-of-the-art facility is being constructed on 2.8 acres of property donated to the District by the Coordination and Development Corporation in cooperation with the City of Natchitoches. This property is located in the Natchitoches

Industrial Park. Funding for the project is provided by the Communications district as well as through successful efforts by Senator Gerald Long, Representative Kenny Cox and the entire Natchitoches Parish legislative delegation to obtain



Capital Outlay funding from the State of Louisiana. Commissioner Jack McCain, Chairman of the Budget/Finance Committee said that *“although the 9-1-1 District has seen the need and planned for a facility of this type for years, it goes without saying that the addition of Capital Outlay funding has now made it possible. We are very grateful for the opportunity that this has afforded Natchitoches Parish public safety.”*

Willis Carter, 9-1-1 Director for Natchitoches Parish said that *“this facility is the result of over five years of planning that marks the beginning of an exciting new era of possibilities for Natchitoches Parish public safety services. We have a high level of commitment toward improving public safety communications coordination, and to create a true public safety response “system”. Hard work and a firm commitment of cooperation by all of the critical disciplines (Law Enforcement/Fire/Emergency Medical) will support our success.”*

Facility design and project coordination is by local architect, George Minturn, and the general contractor for the facility is Pat Williams Construction out of Lake Charles, La. Construction is due to be completed in early 2018, at which time the Communications Commission will hold a Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting event focused on spotlighting the facility and showing appreciation to the citizens of Natchitoches Parish for all of their support.

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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).