

# NEWS RELEASE

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### **Media Contact:**

#### **The Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies**

George Rice

(240) 398-3065

[George.Rice@TheIndustryCouncil.org](mailto:George.Rice@TheIndustryCouncil.org)

## **Verizon Ascends to Industry Council Board**

*Major Communications Carrier Added to Association Leadership Body*

**Washington, D.C., January 10, 2012** — The Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies (iCERT) today announced that Verizon, a General Member since November, has become the Industry Council's newest Board member company.

"Verizon is one of the world's largest telecommunications companies, with an exceptional history of working alongside public safety agencies and commercial partners to advance communications policy and technology. Having this member company now working with the association's established leaders will greatly enhance the Industry Council's capacity to foster beneficial and necessary change in the field of emergency communications," offered George Rice, the Industry Council's Executive Director.

"Verizon is quite pleased to take on a greater role as one of the Industry Council's Board members, working with our partners to ensure that our nation's citizens, residents and visitors have dependable access to emergency calling and that our public safety professionals can communicate effectively," noted Don Brittingham, Vice President for National Security and Public Safety Policy. Brittingham has represented Verizon on the Industry Council and will now represent Verizon on the association's Board of Directors.

Verizon is an industry leader in working with public safety to address emergency communications issues including taking a leadership role in implementing enhanced 9-1-1 capabilities, promoting efforts to make advanced emergency alert capabilities available to wireless users, and supporting efforts to build a nationwide public safety broadband network. Verizon's strong reputation for technology leadership and network reliability also align well with the Industry Council's broader mission to promote the development of an advanced emergency technology infrastructure for first responders and the public at large.

"Including Verizon among the Industry Council's leadership will enrich our insights as we address critical concerns," said iCERT Chairman, Kevin Murray, President and CEO of Mission Critical Partners. "Industry executives continue to provide unique perspectives on using technology to advance public safety, and Don's enhanced engagement will benefit us greatly as we continue our important dialogue on emergency communications."

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#### **About the Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies (iCERT)**

The Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies (iCERT) represents the voice of the commercial sector in the emergency communications field. Established by a group of prominent leaders in December 2005 originally as the 9-1-1 Industry Alliance, iCERT - the Industry Council - plays an important role as the voice of companies on public policy issues impacting 9-1-1 and the emergency response system. Industry Council members believe that business leaders' expertise can assist public policymakers and government emergency communications professionals as they address complex choices regarding advanced communications technology alternatives in the years ahead. Through advocacy, research and in coordination with the public sector, the Industry Council plays a vital role in the development and deployment of emergency response technologies.

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