Inventory of the

National Emergency Number Association

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 308

INTRODUCTION

Brian Fontes, CEO of the National Emergency Number Association donated the organizations records to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on April 20, 2011. Additional records in paper and electronic formats were added at later dates.

Property rights in the collection are held by the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 8.25; 114 digital files (4.15 GB) Number of containers: 12 Northern Illinois Regional History Center Collection 308

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records in this collection document the growth and development of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA). This collection is organized into seven series: Board and President's Records; Financial Records; Reports, Studies, Analyses; Contracts, Partnerships and Agreements; Membership, Staff, and Committees; Conferences; Publications and Media. The first series contains records from the annual Executive Board Meetings which consist of minutes, financial reports, the annual report card to the nation, membership and committee reports, and information related to public education, current initiatives, and international expansion. The first series also contains annual chapter president's reports that include membership summaries broken down by a month to month basis. The second series contains additional financial information.

Series three consists of published reports on NENA activities and studies. This includes an extensive 1999 international expansion study, Strategic Wireless Action Team (SWAT) reports, and the September 11, 2001 Report Card to the Nation (RCN) among others.

Series four contains contracts and agreements between NENA and their partner organizations, as well as the Public Safety Access Point (PSAP) registry. Series five has membership records including membership directories, membership surveys and committee records. Series six includes documents from annual conferences; primarily conference abstracts, Technical Development Conference (TDC/ODC), Next Generation 9-11 meetings, and the Critical Issues Forum.

In the final series, series seven, are publications and media. NENA's News and the Emergency Number Professional magazine makes up the majority of this series. These quarterly magazines cover many of the issues facing 9-1-1, from logistics of equipment to dispatcher training. It also contains news reprints, a NENA Historical Record, the Connections newsletter, and VHS and audio cassette tapes.

Electronic records may be accessed in the Center's reading room.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

In the United States, the first catalyst for a nationwide emergency telephone number gained momentum in 1957 when the National Association of Fire Chiefs recommended use of a single number for reporting fires nationwide.

In 1967, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice recommended that a "single number should be established" nationwide for reporting emergency situations. The use of different telephone numbers for each type of emergency was determined to be contrary to the purpose of a single, universal number. Other Federal Government agencies and various governmental officials also supported and encouraged the recommendation. As a result of the immense interest in this issue, the President's Commission on Civil Disorders turned to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for a solution. In 1968, the FCC and AT&T announced that it would establish the digits 9-1-1 as the emergency code throughout the U.S.

Congress backed AT&T's proposal and passed legislation allowing use of only the numbers 9-1-1 when creating a single emergency calling service, thereby making 9-1-1 a standard emergency number nationwide. Senator Rankin Fite completed the first 911 call in Alabama.

In early 1977, Roger Reinke, program director for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), visited the Chicago police department to observe the new fully featured 9-1-1 system. Illinois Bell Telephone (IBT) built and installed the advanced "selective call routing" system. Mr Reinke managed an agreement with Illinois Bell to hold a conference in Chicago, using Chicago's sophisticated 9-1-1 system as the center of focus.

NTIA sponsored three national 9-1-1 meetings in an effort to create industry awareness of 9-1-1 and collect information on emergency number systems currently in use. At the close of the final conference, Jeff Rogerson (production manager of Illinois Bell) and Mr. Reinke met with Don Gordon of Illinois and James Greene and James Crooks of Wisconsin, to discuss how a new organization could be formed to continue the work of NTIA and implement 9-1-1 as a national number for the country.

At the Elburn, Illinois fire department, in the fall of 1981, Illinois organized a 9-1-1 state chapter that became the founding chapter of NENA. The state committee (consisting of Greene, Crooks, Reinke, Rogerson, Gordon, and others) planned the first NENA conference, to be held at Pheasant Run in St. Charles, Illinois. To accomplish the goal of "One Nation, One Number," NENA set out to foster the technological advancement, availability, and implementation of a universal emergency telephone system.

Members of NENA are professionals in the 9-1-1 industry involved in the planning, organizing, staffing and directing of public safety emergency communications systems.

Membership also includes persons from the business sector who are involved in the design, manufacture, sale, service, etc. of systems to be used in public safety emergency systems. Today, NENA has over 7500 members organized into chapters across the U.S. and affiliate chapters in foreign countries.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

National Emergency Number Association NENA (Association) Public Safety

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX	<u>FOLDER</u>	DESCRIPTION		
Series I. Board and President's Records				
1	1-21	Executive Board Meeting, 1990-1996		
2	1-19	Executive Board Meeting, 1997-2002		
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Series II. Financial Records				
	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	501c-3 Tax Information, (1983-1999) Financial Statements, 1994 Audit, 1995 General Ledger, 2002-2003 Account Spending Analysis Report, 2004 Account Statement Report, 2004 Transaction Summary, 2004 Credit Card Program, n.d.		
Series III. Reports, Studies, Analyses				
	11-17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	International Expansion Study, 1999 SWAT Stake Holders Initiative, 2003 SWAT Initiative, 2003 SWAT Accelerating Deployment of Nationwide 911, 2003 SWAT Grant Budget, 2003 SWAT, Ron Whinery Engagement and Contracts, 2003 SWAT Initiative, PSAP Staffing Survey, 2003 Memos concerning use of 311, 1997 Report Card to the Nation (RCN), 2001 911 Center Operations Panel: Public Education, 2002 Public Safety Foundations of America (includes DVD), 2003 Analysis of the 911 Challenge, 2003		

BOX	FOLDER I	DESCRIPTION		
Series IV. Contracts, Partnerships and Agreements				
4	29 30 31	International Corporate Documents, 1997 NENA Buildings, Ohio and Wisconsin, 2000 Navajo Nation, 2003		
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Series V. Membership, Staff, and Committees				
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Series VI. Conferences				
	23-28 29-34	Annual Conference Abstracts, 1991-1996 Annual Conference Program Guide, 1995-2008		
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6	1 2 3 4 5 6 7-9	Critical Issues Forum: PBX Issues, 2000 Brochure, 2001-2002 Wireless Phase I and II, 2002 VoIP, April 2004 Wireless 911, 2004 VoIP, May 2004 911 Goes to Washington, 2005-2007 Technical Development Conference (TDC/ODC): TDC/ODC, (2000-2006)		
	11	Orlando FL, 2004		

TDC/ODC, 2004

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION		
6	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28-29 30 31 32 33 34 35	Next Generation 9-11: Partnership: NENA, RAINS, Sphere, 2004 Programming, 2004-2005 Management Team Meeting, 2005 Responding to an Urgent Need for Change, 2005 Project, DOT/NHTSA, 2006 E 911, 2006 Topic Area Meeting, 2006 Transitioning Emergency Communications, 2006 Funding Model, 2007 Summary of Development and Results, 2007 Policy Maker Blueprint, 2008 Conference Planning, Long Beach, 1988 Annual Conference Brochures, (1999-2006) 911 Center Operations Best Practices, 2002 Joint Board, Technical, Operations Meeting, 2003 Joint Technical Meeting, 2004 ComCare Alliance, 2004 APCO International Exposition, 2004 E911 Institute, 2005 Conference Evaluations, 2005		
	36	GISPC Brochures, 2006		
Series VII. Publications and Media				
	37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44-46	Newspaper Article: Founding of NENA, n.d. Newspaper Article: Bill Stanton, 2006 NENA Historical Record, 1993 Ad Copy, NENA News and Connections, n.d.; Sally Cell Phone, 2010 Connections Newsletter, (1999-2002) NENA News Reprints, 1990-1994 NENA News Reprints, 1990 NENA News, (1982-1988), 1988-1990		
7	1-14 15-22 23	NENA News, 1991-2004 EPN Magazine, 2004-2010 911 Reporter, 1984 Books: The 911 Puzzle (1st ed.), 1993		
8		The 911 Puzzle (2 nd ed.), 1995 E 911 Database Guide, (1 st ed.), 1994		

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