



For Immediate Release  
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### **E9-1-1 Institute Honors Senator Conrad Burns**

The E-911 Institute in Washington, D.C., will present a special award to former Senator Conrad Burns (R-MT) for his work in emergency communications.

Burns was an original co-chairman of the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus and was a leader in advancing public safety issues throughout his senatorial career. He sponsored the Enhanced 911 Emergency Communications Act of 2003, which passed in 2004, to authorize \$250 million in grants to upgrade 9-1-1 facilities, and focused Congressional attention on the need to upgrade emergency facilities in rural areas. He steadfastly monitored the Federal Communications Commission as it implemented rules governing 9-1-1 service and worked to make certain that E9-1-1 services were available to users of any type of telephone system, whether wireless or the newest Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP).

Senator Burns served three terms in the U.S. Senate, where he was chairman of the Communications Subcommittee and a leader in telecom issues generally, in addition to his work in E9-1-1. In the Senate, he was known as a fierce advocate for rural telecom consumers, and worked to spur the development of advanced services for consumers and for emergency uses. Since leaving the Senate, Senator Burns has become a senior advisor at GAGE Business Consulting.

Gregory L. Rohde, executive director of the Institute, said, "There was no greater champion on Capitol Hill for 9-1-1 issues than Senator Burns. He was instrumental in founding the E9-1-1 Caucus and for advancing its goals. We are very pleased to honor his service."

The award will be presented at a March 13 ceremony in Washington, D.C.

**About the E911 Institute.** The E9-1-1 Institute ([www.e911institute.org](http://www.e911institute.org)) is a not-for-profit organization which provides administrative and policy support to the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. Gregory L.

Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, serves as the E9-1-1 Institute's Executive Director.

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