

Marilyn Ward

Role in NPSTC: Executive Director, Founding Governing Board Chair

Job History: Ms. Ward brings 36 years of experience as both an advocate for public safety telecommunications issues and as an administrator in public safety telecommunications, from her position as Manager of Communications at the City of Orlando Police Department (27 years, retired 1999) to her appointment as Orange County Public Safety Communications Manager, to her current position as the Executive Director of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council.

Throughout her career, Ms. Ward has managed 9-1-1 infrastructure and call centers, Radio Systems and services, and non-emergency Government Information. She was the project manager for the 3-1-1 non-emergency project, and was the Chair of the Governor's Statewide Regional Domestic Security Task Force Interoperability Committee. As Communications Manager, Ms. Ward was able to stay involved with communications issues on every level—local, State and Federal. Ms. Ward served as the Orange County Communications Manager until March 2005. Currently, Ms Ward is the Executive Director of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) which is a federation of fifteen public safety associations, including the International Associations of Police Chiefs and Fire Chiefs. Ms. Ward serves on the DHS SAFECOM Executive Committee, and as founding Chair of NPSTC, has maintained a national role in public safety communications for over fifteen years.

Background: Ms. Ward served as former president of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials – International (APCO) from 1992-1997, and was the NPSTC Founding Chair from 1997-2005, when she became Executive Director. She is a member and fellow of the Radio Club of America.

Education: Ms. Ward holds a degree in Business and Management and has received many public safety-related certificates in her career.