

# ROG the Dog

## FirstNet Therapy Dog

Animal Assisted Therapy: Compared to the general population, first responders experience higher rates of depression, PTSD, burnout, anxiety, and other mental health issues\*.

\*Purvis, M., Fullencamp, L. & Docherty, M. (2020). Animal Assisted Therapy on Law Enforcement Mental Health: A Therapy Dog Implementation Guide. Bowling Green University.

### Therapy dogs have:

- · A positive impact on mental and physical health
- · Improved coping and recovery
- Enhanced morale
- · Decreased stress
- Impacted PTSD and emotional distress



#### Goals:

- To provide comfort and care for our employees in times of crisis
- To provide the opportunity for FirstNet Response Operations Group to add therapy/comfort dogs to their operations
- To partake in community partnership opportunities and local events
- To serve as a value-added benefit for FirstNet Operations and the communities we serve

#### Who:

- FirstNet Customers responding to a critical event
- ROG Team and NDR Teams responding to critical events
- One regional event per year (4 total)
- Major FirstNet Marketing events (4 total)

#### How:

- Contracted Dogs with GMR
- Customers can request ROG the Dog as a deployable with FirstNet Care
- Response Operations Group and Network Disaster Recovery can request ROG the Dog
- Sales VPs can request ROG the Dog for an event (however, critical events take precedence)
- Marketing can request ROG the Dog to support events
- Please email requests to: DL-ROGtheDOg@att.com



\*ROG the Dog is affectionately named for the FirstNet Response Operations Group (ROG) Team