

On February 20, 2014, the FCC proposed rules to provide 911 emergency call centers with more accurate information about the location of people who call 911 using cellphones or smartphones.

FCC rules currently require some outdoor location information about wireless callers to be sent automatically to 911 emergency call centers. The FCC wants to require more information about the location of wireless callers who are indoors – to identify the building, the floor, and perhaps the room, office, or apartment where the wireless call originated. These requirements will rely on the advancing capabilities of indoor location technology.

Improving location accuracy for wireless calls to 911 may be particularly important for individuals with disabilities and for people who are not able to provide their address or describe their location to the emergency call center.

The FCC seeks comment on the proposed requirements for more accurate location information of wireless 911 callers, including the cost and benefits of providing more accurate location information.

Comment deadline dates will be announced after the proposed rules are published in the Federal Register.

Links to a press release about this FCC action:

Word: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-325694A1.docx

PDF: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-325694A1.pdf

Text: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-325694A1.txt

Links to the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-14-13A1.docx

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2014/db0221/FCC-14-13A1.pdf

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2014/db0221/FCC-14-13A1.txt