

NG9-1-1 Institute Gala 2014 Tuesday 3/25/14

As you may know, The NG9-1-1 Institute is a not-for-profit organization that works with the Congressional NextGen 9-1-1 Caucus to promote deployment of advanced and effective Next Generation (NG) 9-1-1 services throughout the nation. Founded in 2003, the Institute has steadily grown in membership and influence as a valued resource for policy makers. This includes NG9-1-1 expertise spanning the public safety community and the service providers and vendors supporting 9-1-1 services.

Tonight is dedicated to honoring Carla Anderson, the Institute's Deputy Executive Director who recently departed. We have a number of friends and colleagues who are here to help us honor Carla and to talk to all of our interest in Next Generation 9-1-1.

For those of you who have been to this event in the past, you probably noticed a couple of differences. First, we went with a less formal reception style setting. This is due in large part to our loss of staff following Carla's passing. Next year we will re-evaluate the style and venue to continue to make this an event you want to attend.

Second, this is the first year we did not seek nominations from the public safety community to recognize our heroes. Again, this has to do with staffing and other operational challenges we have faced this year. Please understand that it is not because we did not have 9-1-1 heroes this past year. Far from it. We are an industry made up of heroes. Each of you here is responsible for saving lives every hour of every day. Rest assured that next year, we will return to the nomination and selection process of the past. This year, we have no bigger hero to honor than Carla Anderson. She holds a special place in many of our hearts – mine included – and has made immeasurable contributions to 9-1-1. More on that later.

To help the Institute with this focus and new strategies, I am pleased to introduce on behalf of the entire Board of the Institute, our choice for our new Executive Director – Kim Robert Scovill.

It is my great honor to present the inaugural Carla Anderson Heart of 911 award to Carla's family.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for being a part of the Institute and being here tonight to celebrate Carla's life.

Good Night and God Bless!