

Subject: Business Telephone Systems – E911 Kari’s Law & Ray Baum’s Act

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Product: Unified Communications

You have been hearing about the new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations adopted as part of Kari’s Law & Ray Baum’s Act. This notice is to explain our position on complying with the regulations for BTS products.

In August 2019, the FCC adopted rules to implement the federal Kari’s Law Act of 2017. Those rules include requirements for multi-line telephone systems (MLTS) that are installed after February 16, 2020. Kari’s Law requires that an MLTS enable users to dial 911 directly without having to dial any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix. It also requires the MLTS to provide for notification of the 911 call when the call is made.

Since being notified of these new MLTS rules in the past few years, we have been preparing BTS cabinets to be compliant. All our cabinets were updated in 2016 to support direct-dial 911 out-of-the-box. The exception was the KX-TA824 cabinet, which was discontinued recently because of this new rule.

Be assured that our KX-NS and KX-NSX family of Communication Systems are fully compliant. The KX-NS700/700G/1000 version 8 system software was launched August 2019. Among other features, it added the ability to provide for call and email notifications when a 911 call is made. The KX-NSX2000 version 5 has just been launched and adds the same compliance features.

We will also continue working with the FCC as rules are added in the coming years as part of this Act. We already have new technologies and features in development to ensure we remain compliant as rules coming in 2021 and 2022 become required.

Panasonic encourages authorized BTS resellers to communicate with your installed base about Kari’s law since many customers may want to be compliant if they’re not already.

If you have any questions about this, please contact your Territory Account Manager (TAM).

