# Understanding

# Ray Baum's Act

**Guidance for NHC Users**

## What is RAY BAUM's Act?

RAY BAUM's Act is broad in scope, but the item most focused on is Section 506.  In Section 506 are the rules adopted by the FCC requiring enterprises utilizing multi-line telephone systems (MLTS) to provide automated dispatchable location for all 911 calls.

Dispatchable location information provided to the public safety answering point (PSAP) includes a valid address, plus secondary location information such as building, floor, suite, or room number "necessary to adequately identify the location of the calling party." Dispatchable locations are required for both fixed or static phone devices as well as non-fixed, dynamic, or nomadic phone devices.

## Why is RAY BAUM's Act important?

Today's enterprise environments consist of large, multi-story buildings with unique and challenging layouts. A first responder arriving at one of these buildings with only the main street address is unlikely to quickly find a 911 caller located in a 6th floor lunchroom.

**RAY BAUM's Act** establishes the concept of "dispatchable location" for Interconnected VoIP services and other 911-capable services. This more precise location information is critical to achieving successful emergency outcomes for calls that originate from multi-line telephone systems (MLTS).

## When does RAY BAUM's Act go into effect?

The FCC's new rules were published in the December 6, 2019, Federal Register. In accordance with the FCC's order implementing RAY BAUM'S Act, the initial compliance dates for the Section 506 "dispatchable location" components of RAY BAUM'S Act can be found in the following table.

## What does this mean to NHC?

What this means is we will need to change the way we handle 911 and the way we discuss it with our customers.  Our current model is one 911 dispatchable location per location.  This does not allow for a more focused approach to the dispatchable location like Floor/Suite/Room.   At NHC we will be moving from a one dispatchable location model to a nomadic 911 model.  This means every hosted and FXS line will have a dispatchable location.  PRI and Sip bindings will be a bit different.  The amount of 911 locations will be dependent on the customer and customer vendor as to what they will require.  Moving to a Nomadic model will put the ability to change the 911 location on the customer and customer vendor after our initial entry of the more focused 911 information.

To learn more about Ray Baum's Act, please visit FCC.GOV.