

# Creating the Most Effective Apps for Public Safety

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# Why Apps?

- ❖ Mobile apps can be powerful tools for public safety communications
  - ❖ Serving both citizens and public safety professionals
  - ❖ Driven by new features and innovations, faster networks, and better devices
- ❖ The FirstNet nationwide public safety broadband network will bring advanced communications technology to first responders
- ❖ The transition to advanced, IP-based platforms, including Next Generation 9-1-1 systems will enable the use of new apps that will become essential components of emergency response

# APCO's Application Community Website - AppComm

**[www.AppComm.org](http://www.AppComm.org)**



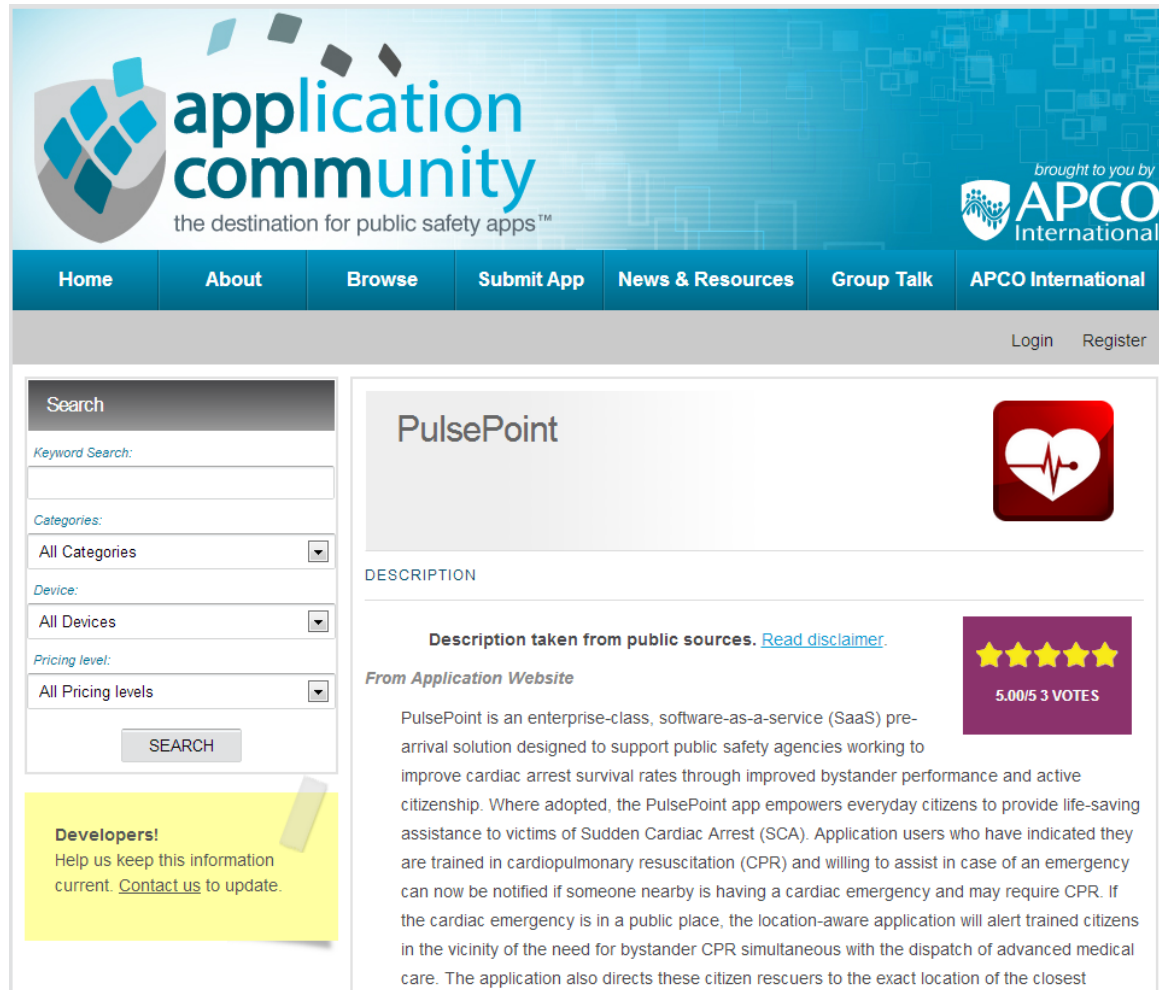
# AppComm: The Destination for Public Safety Apps

- ⌘ Prior to AppComm, public safety professionals largely had to learn about helpful apps by word of mouth.
- ⌘ AppComm is your single, trusted site for public safety apps, meaning apps for use by first responders as well as the general public.

# AppComm Features


- ✕ Learn about existing apps for public safety and emergency response
  - ✕ Search by category, device, price, and function
  - ✕ Create a Favorites list
- ✕ Rate and Comment on apps
- ✕ Use the “Submit App” form if there’s an app that should be included on the site
- ✕ Submit ideas for new apps
- ✕ Share your thoughts and opinions about apps on Group Talk
- ✕ Register so you can avail yourself of all of AppComm’s features!

# Learn About What's Out There



The screenshot displays the 'application community' website, which is described as 'the destination for public safety apps™'. The site is brought to you by APCO International. The navigation bar includes links for Home, About, Browse, Submit App, News & Resources, Group Talk, and APCO International. A search bar is located on the left side, with filters for Keyword Search, Categories (All Categories), Device (All Devices), and Pricing level (All Pricing levels). A 'SEARCH' button is also present. A yellow sticky note on the left side of the search bar reads: 'Developers! Help us keep this information current. [Contact us](#) to update.'

## PulsePoint



**DESCRIPTION**

Description taken from public sources. [Read disclaimer.](#)

**From Application Website**

PulsePoint is an enterprise-class, software-as-a-service (SaaS) pre-arrival solution designed to support public safety agencies working to improve cardiac arrest survival rates through improved bystander performance and active citizenship. Where adopted, the PulsePoint app empowers everyday citizens to provide life-saving assistance to victims of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). Application users who have indicated they are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and willing to assist in case of an emergency can now be notified if someone nearby is having a cardiac emergency and may require CPR. If the cardiac emergency is in a public place, the location-aware application will alert trained citizens in the vicinity of the need for bystander CPR simultaneous with the dispatch of advanced medical care. The application also directs these citizen rescuers to the exact location of the closest

**5.00/5 3 VOTES**

# Learn About What's Out There

[Visit Website](#) [Share](#) [★ Add To Favorites](#)

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**Price** Free

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**Download from Apple App Store**  
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pulsepoint/id500772134?mt=8>

**Download from Google Play**  
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=mobi.firedepartment&hl=en>

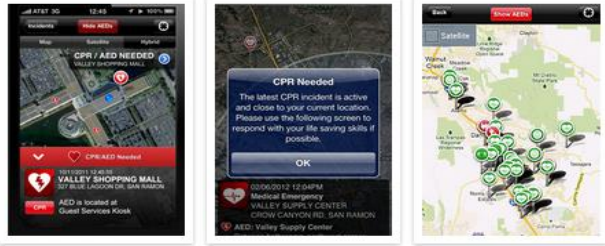
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**Category** 9-1-1, EMS, Fire

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**Tags** [AED](#) | [CPR](#) | [Dispatch](#) | [Government data](#) | [Photos](#) | [radio](#) | [Volunteer](#)

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1 COMMENT

Rich says:

[June 11, 2013 at 2:27 PM](#)

The PulsePoint app allows everyday citizens (and off-duty health care professionals) to be an integral part of the emergency response network in any community. This story <http://pulsepoint.org/2013/04/nurse-uses-lifesaving-app-to-find-try-to-help-man-in-cardiac-arrest/> about an off-duty nurse responding to a nearby cardiac arrest demonstrates the value

# Sort by Function

### Search

Keyword Search:

Categories:

All Categories

Device:

All Devices

Pricing level:

All Pricing levels

SEARCH

### Tags


Calculators| Campus Safety|  
Checklist| CPR| Crime Tips|  
**Disaster**| Dispatch| Donate|  
Dosing| Earthquake| Educational  
Tools| Emergency Contacts|  
Evacuation| First Aid|  
Government Data| GPS|  
Gunshot Detection| HazMat| Help  
Request| Hospital| Hurricane| Incident  
Management| Incident Reports|

## Dispatch


9 Results Found

Home / **Posts tagged "Dispatch"** /


[save this search](#) [view saved searches](#) [★ My Favorites](#)




Canvas Business  
Forms & Apps




Cliqtalk Instant  
Collaboration




Emergency Radio  
Free




Fire Hall Utility




NowForce Mobile  
Responder



PulsePoint



Response Deck  
• SBC



SLOEMS



# Sort by Category

Search

9-1-1

Keyword Search:

Categories:

All Categories

Device:

All Devices

Pricing level:

All Pricing levels

SEARCH


17 Results Found


Home / category "9-1-1" /


Order Results By


save this search view saved searches new email alert


My Favorites


  
Active911


  
APD Tips


  
CityConnect San Jose, CA

  
CT Police Phones

  
EMS Field Partner

  
Fire Hall Utility

  
First Aid by American Red Cross

  
Flight for Life Central

# Submit Ideas

The screenshot shows the 'application community' website, which is described as 'the destination for public safety apps'. The site is brought to you by APCO International. The navigation bar includes links for Home, About, Browse, Submit App, News & Resources, Group Talk, and APCO International. A yellow circle highlights the 'Submit App' button and a callout box that says 'Have an idea for a great app? Submit it here.' The callout box is a purple rectangle with white text. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar with a 'SEARCH' button. To the right of the search bar, there is a section titled 'What makes an effective public safety app?' which provides a list of important characteristics for the apps that appear on this site. Below this section is an 'App Gallery (most recent first)' featuring several app icons: 'Suspicious Activity Reporting', 'Fire Safety Web App', 'Lancaster County Emergency Radio', 'VSee', and 'Holler'. On the right side of the page, there is a 'Tweets' section showing recent tweets from APCO Gov't Relations and ABC7News.

application community  
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Home About Browse Submit App News & Resources Group Talk APCO International

Login Register

Search

Keyword Search:

Categories:

All Categories

Device:

All Devices

Pricing level:

All Pricing levels

SEARCH

What makes an effective public safety app?

APCO's recently-released "Key Attributes of Effective Apps for Public Safety and Emergency Response" provides a list of important characteristics for the apps that appear on this site. [Read it here.](#)

App Gallery (most recent first)

Suspicious Activity Reporting

Fire Safety Web App

Lancaster County Emergency Radio

VSee

Holler

Have an idea for a great app? Submit it here.

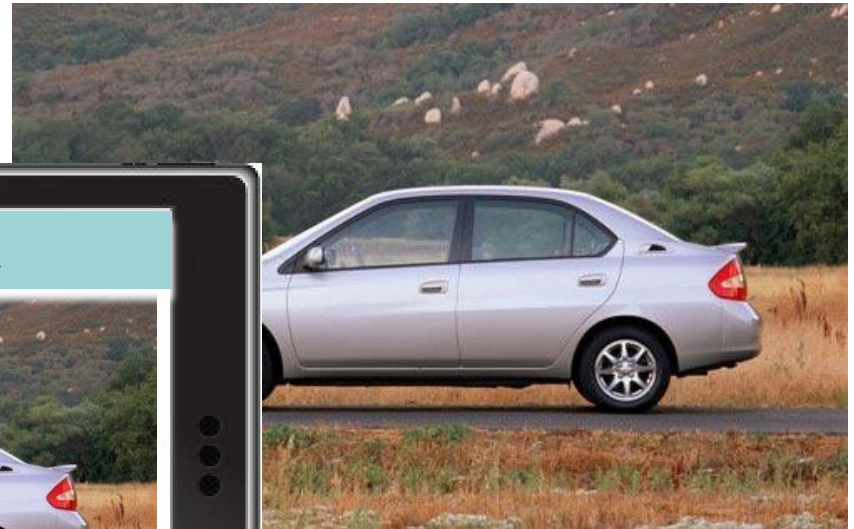
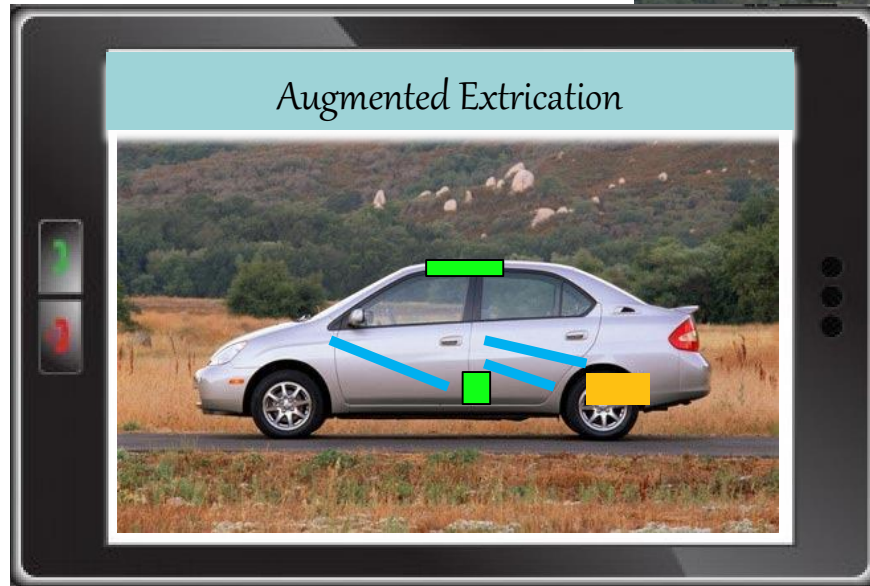
Tweets

APCO Gov't Relations @GRO\_APCO 8 Nov  
Earlier, APCO agenda had order reliability & resiliency of 911 networks; removed to enable more time for new Chairman and Comm'r review  
Expand

ABC7News @ABC7News 7 Nov  
Arlington's construction boom could be putting emergency radio communications in danger. [wjla/1bfgtV4](#)  
Retweeted by APCO Gov't Relations  
Show Summary

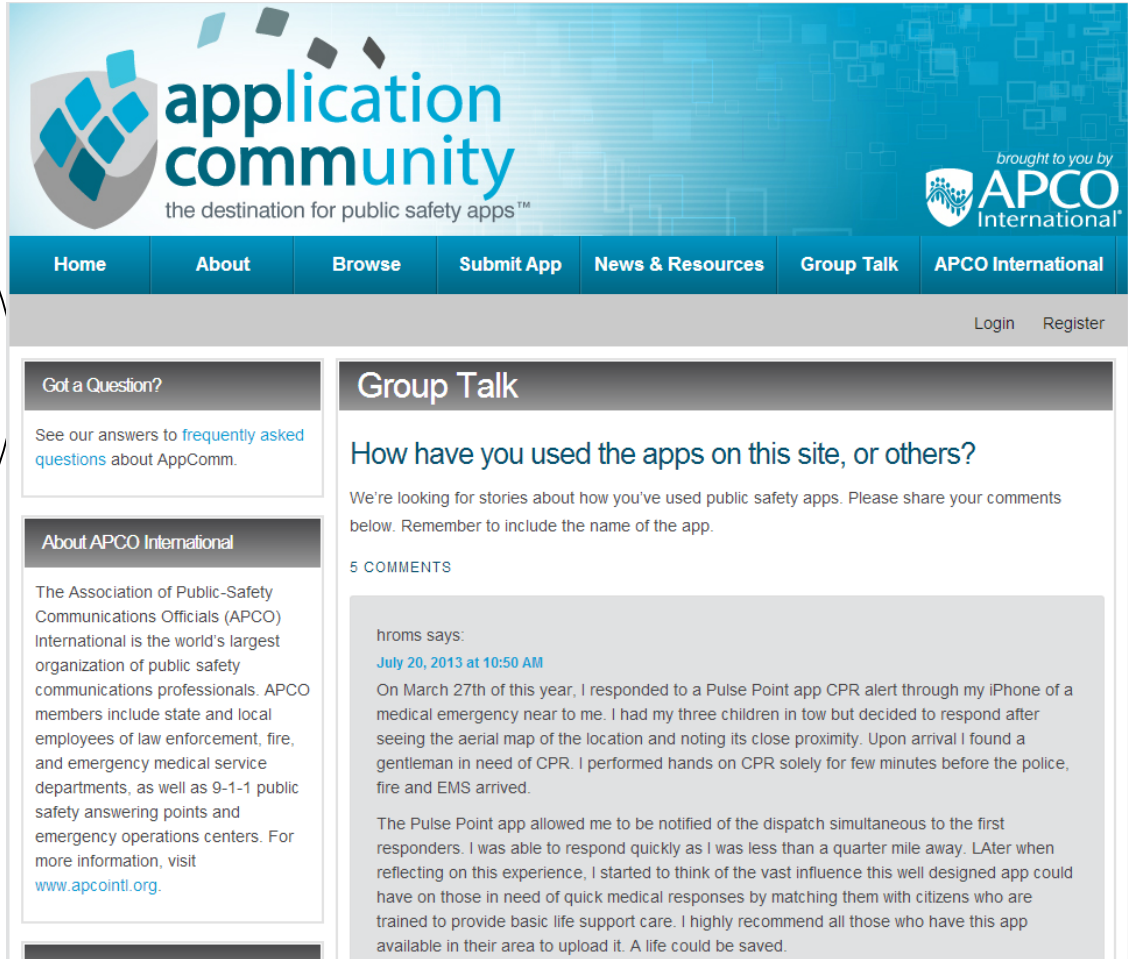
# Submit Ideas

"I'd like an extrication app that overlays air bags, reinforced posts, and power supply on a live image of the hybrid car I'm working on."



# New Feature - Group Talk

I responded to a PulsePoint app CPR alert through my iPhone... Upon arrival I found a gentleman in need of CPR. I performed hands on CPR solely for a few minutes before the police, fire and EMS arrived... I highly recommend all those who have this app available in their area to upload it. A life could be saved.



The screenshot displays the 'application community' website, which is described as 'the destination for public safety apps™'. The site is brought to you by APCO International. The navigation bar includes links for Home, About, Browse, Submit App, News & Resources, Group Talk, and APCO International. There are also links for Login and Register. The main content area features a 'Group Talk' section with the title 'How have you used the apps on this site, or others?'. Below the title, it says 'We're looking for stories about how you've used public safety apps. Please share your comments below. Remember to include the name of the app.' and '5 COMMENTS'. A comment by 'hroms' dated 'July 20, 2013 at 10:50 AM' is visible, detailing a response to a Pulse Point app CPR alert. To the left of the Group Talk section, there are two other sections: 'Got a Question?' with a link to frequently asked questions, and 'About APCO International' with a description of the organization and a link to its website.

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brought to you by  
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Home About Browse Submit App News & Resources Group Talk APCO International

Login Register

Got a Question?

See our answers to [frequently asked questions](#) about AppComm.

About APCO International

The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International is the world's largest organization of public safety communications professionals. APCO members include state and local employees of law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical service departments, as well as 9-1-1 public safety answering points and emergency operations centers. For more information, visit [www.apcointl.org](http://www.apcointl.org).

Group Talk

How have you used the apps on this site, or others?

We're looking for stories about how you've used public safety apps. Please share your comments below. Remember to include the name of the app.

5 COMMENTS

hroms says:  
July 20, 2013 at 10:50 AM

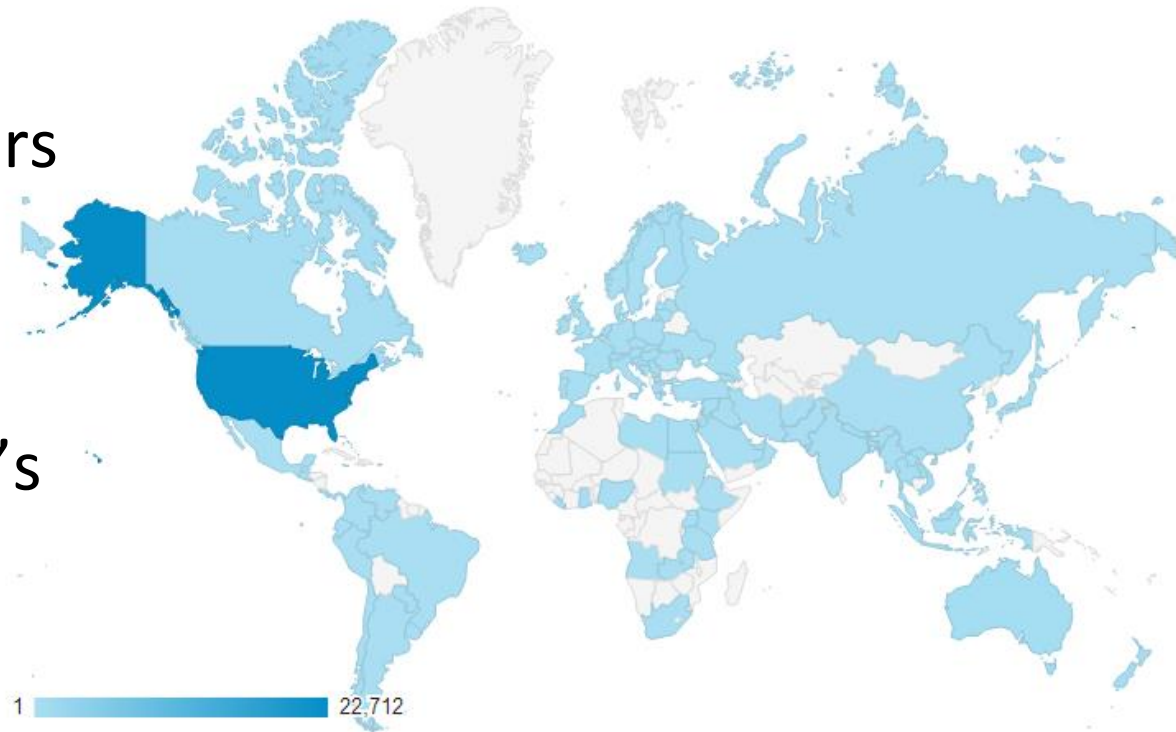
On March 27th of this year, I responded to a Pulse Point app CPR alert through my iPhone of a medical emergency near to me. I had my three children in tow but decided to respond after seeing the aerial map of the location and noting its close proximity. Upon arrival I found a gentleman in need of CPR. I performed hands on CPR solely for few minutes before the police, fire and EMS arrived.

The Pulse Point app allowed me to be notified of the dispatch simultaneous to the first responders. I was able to respond quickly as I was less than a quarter mile away. Later when reflecting on this experience, I started to think of the vast influence this well designed app could have on those in need of quick medical responses by matching them with citizens who are trained to provide basic life support care. I highly recommend all those who have this app available in their area to upload it. A life could be saved.



# Since Launch

- 197,000 page views
- 20,000 unique visitors
- 168 apps
- MOU with FirstNet
- Publication of APCO's Key Attributes



# APCO's Key Attributes

APCO is not testing/vetting apps but has developed a list of [Key Attributes of Effective Apps for Public Safety and Emergency Response](#) to guide the selection of apps for AppComm. They include:

- Operability
  - Efficient use of data
  - Minimal strain on battery life
- Security
- Privacy/Confidentiality
- Sending data to PSAPs and Comm Centers, interfacing with PSAPs
  - NOTE: APCO has filed a PIN with ANSI to develop a standard for apps that interface with communications centers and public safety responders

# Join the Community!

- Participate & spread the word:
  - Register at [www.AppComm.org](http://www.AppComm.org)
  - Your ratings, comments, submissions, and ideas will drive innovation
  - Join the informal app review group to provide targeted feedback on select apps
- Your expertise can make a difference
  - Refine the Key Attributes
  - Help turn ideas into lifesaving tools
  - Contact us at [AppComm@apcointl.org](mailto:AppComm@apcointl.org)