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VOICE SERVICES

**ON KARI'S LAW AND
RAY BAUM'S ACT**

The History of Kari's Law

- The bill was signed into law after the murder of Kari Hunt in a hotel room in Texas back in 2015.
- Kari's 9-year-old daughter could not reach emergency services because she didn't know she needed a trunk-access code to dial out.
- Kari's law was passed nationally and became effective as of February 16th, 2020.
- Kari's Law applies to Multi-Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) commonly used in business, hospitality, service, government schools, colleges, and universities.

Requirements of Kari's Law



Kari's Law requires Multi-Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) to be configured to dial 9-1-1 in three keystrokes.

MLTS must enable direct dial of 9-1-1 without an additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix, including any trunk-access code such as the digit "9."



Kari's Law also requires that when a 9-1-1 call is made there must be an internal notification to a central location in the facility (e.g. an organization's system admin., safety director, etc.)

Kari's Law became effective nation wide on February 16th, 2020.



To test your system:

Pick up the handset and dial 9-1-1, let the call go through.

Inform the operator that you are testing your system's 9-1-1 functionality.

Inform them of the address from which you are calling to ensure it matches what is displayed on their system.

Ray Baum's Act

- Ray Baum's Act became effective the same day as Kari's Law.
- Requires the conveyance of a dispatchable location to the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) during 911 calls regardless of platform used.
- Additional information such as room number, floor number, or similar information necessary to identify the location of the calling party may be required for compliance.
 - MLTS users are afforded flexibility in deciding the level of detail included in the location information to PSAPs—so long as the level of detail is functionally sufficient.

The Importance of Ray Baum's Act for You



Currently, there is no policing agency ensuring compliance.



The primary reason for Ray Baum's Act is a safer, better 911 system.



Secondly, full adherence to the act can help defend against civil liability—thus safeguarding against a bad situation becoming worse.

VIP cannot guarantee the accuracy of this information for each individual circumstance. Please contact your own legal counsel to determine how the rules apply to your organization.

Additional Considerations



Requires a functioning 10-digit phone number for disconnected calls.



The type of phone service determines the number of phone lines.



DID vs. Call-Path with 911 capabilities.



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VIP's legal counsel was provided by Eric Underwood of Barrows & Grimm (918) 584-1600

Additional Resources

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/12/05/2019-20137/implementing-karis-law-and-raybaums-act-inquiry-concerning-911-access-routing-and-location-in>

<https://www.viptsg.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/VIP-Karis-Law-and-Ray-Baums-on-double-branded-letterhead.pdf>