My issue has to deal with case 17-179 which is the proposed merger of Sinclair Media with Tribune Media.

I am opposed to the merger of those two entities because that will reduce competition in the market and leave consumers in Chicago with few choices in terms of choices in media. By not having a diverse market with media the United States has a real danger of having a small number of corporate conglomerates controlling a wide variety of media outlets which will not only reduce the number of jobs available for those wishing to enter the media field due to corporate consolidation but will definitely lead to self censorship by the resulting media outlet to stay in tune with the whims to the leaders of the large corporate entity. The Chicago market is large enough to support its own media firm with there being enough and more viewers to make such a concern profitable, and the Chicago market is large enough to have its own unique characteristics that demand locally driven choices. Our country has had a history going back to the turn of the last century of fighting against corporate trusts, and we cannot regress back to a previous era in terms of letting a small number of companies control something that is a vital public interest. Media is the vehicle by which people can make educated choices and get important information, and having a small number of companies control those facets is very dangerous for our democracy.