April 17, 2018

201 N. Division

Guthrie, OK 73044

(405) 282-0050ph • (405)282-2804fax

Federal Communications Commission

445 12 Street SW,

Washington, DC 20554

Re: Waiver Request

Dear Sir or Mam:

The purpose of this letter is to request a waiver for the FCC Form 471 deadline and participate in the 2018 eRate Funding Year 2018 through USAC. Due to a family emergency, I did not file the Form 471 within the scheduled timeframe and am hopeful that the FCC will honor my request.

The mission of the Guthrie Public Library is to provide library resources and services, meeting the evolving educational and informational needs of our customers, thus enhancing individual and community life. The Guthrie Public Library is a crucial information and technology resource for over 45,000 Logan County residents, and is the only public library in Logan County.

Logan County is a rural community and the Guthrie Public Library is a staple for Logan County residents. Last year the Guthrie Public Library served over 15,000 customers. The number of residents in need of library services continues to increase. In the last two years alone, library employees have welcomed over 2,300 new library card holders. In addition to traditional library services, today's patrons depend on the library to meet numerous technological needs, including internet access, online catalogue access, research, business and education resources, document printing, and online communication. Since June of 2015, the library has seen an estimated 40% increase in disabled Logan County residents in need of computer and technology services. The percentage of low income patrons is over 20%, meaning almost 3,000 library card holders are below poverty line. We are grateful to provide these services, with the support of the internet, but due to a family emergency, I “dropped the ball” winter 2018.

During the fall 2017 my sister received a diagnosis that shocked my family, causing us to shift our priorities. A routine visit with her medical doctor revealed that she required open-heart surgery and a pace maker. My sister is 56 years of age. My family and I rallied around her and provided support as she prepared mentally, emotionally and financially for a new life. For my culture, family is extremely important; it is a significant part of who we are; it is a pillar of our identity. As we prepared to be a support for my sister, we did not know what this new life would look like but we knew this new journey was inevitable. As we gave support to my sister monthly/weekly/daily and hourly, I successfully completed the 470 Form within the scheduled time however, I overlooked the deadline for the 471 Form.

The Guthrie Public Library is sustained by aid and grants. eRate has been a vital support as we provide services and assist customers to navigate their web-based needs including employment applications, social security benefits, addressing food and housing needs and, just recently completing tax returns. The cost for monthly internet access is $1,430.00 per month/$17,160.00 per year, a cost our budget cannot sustain. Therefore, I am asking that the FCC honor my request and allow our Form 471 be considered for the 2018 year.

Enclosed please find:

1. A quote from OneNet for Category 1 internet access and/or Telecommunications services
2. A signed contract for services and/or products from OneNet for eRate Funding Year 2018

If you have additional questions or need additional information from me, please contact me at the numbers listed below.

Thank you for your time and take care!

Sincerely,

Suzette V. Chang

Suzette V. Chang

Executive Director

Guthrie Public Library

405-282-0050

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