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Via ECFS

June 18, 2020

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 20-60; MB Docket No. 18-349; MB Docket No. 14-261; MB Docket No. 10-71

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This will report that, on June 16, 2020, representatives of the Four Network Affiliates Associations, and their counsel, held a teleconference with Chairman Pai and his advisors to discuss and update the Commission on the competitive video marketplace uniquely served by the over 600 television stations represented by the Affiliates Associations, particularly during the current pandemic and racial justice protests.

During the call, chairs of each of the Affiliates Associations thanked the Chairman for all of the FCC's actions on Covid-19 related waivers and rulings that have enabled television stations to better serve their communities during the current health crisis. The Affiliates Associations representatives also thanked the Chairman for the FCC's decision to seek Supreme Court review of the latest Third Circuit decision overturning the FCC's efforts to modernize outdated, anticompetitive, and anti-diversity local media ownership rules and encouraged the FCC to continue those efforts.

The Affiliates Associations outlined their multi-faceted efforts to serve their local communities as the major source of news and information on the pandemic and the efforts of local and state governments to combat its spread and bring clear and accurate information to their viewers. They also stressed the news gathering efforts during the current protests and the challenges their reporters are facing in providing their communities with accurate and up-to-date factual reporting. They further summarized the efforts of the local broadcasters in fund raising and community outreach in response to the hardships caused to local businesses, employees and institutions.

The Affiliates Associations noted that all of these efforts were being made at a time when the local stations are facing unprecedented challenges, including drastically decreased advertising revenues, employee health issues and remote work requirements and the almost complete absence of sports and live event programming. They emphasized the importance of retransmission consent revenues for local stations and the fact that those monies were allowing stations to provide the best local news, public affairs, weather and emergency programming for their communities even in a depressed advertising market. The retransmission consent system is working as envisioned by Congress in 1992.

The Affiliates Associations also described the competitive environment they are facing in their local video marketplaces and the increasing competition for advertising dollars from the largest companies in the



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country, the increasing concentration in the national programming distribution business and the rapidly developing trend toward streaming of video content. They reviewed their multi-faceted relationships with their television networks and the virtual MVPD development and displacement of traditional MVPD's in the distribution world.

The Affiliates Associations stressed the importance of further local ownership relief, the continued absolute importance of the existing and long-standing exclusivity rules for local television stations and the need to better and more accurately define the local video marketplace. To that end, they urged the FCC to continue its efforts to educate the DOJ on the many changes and developments that have made the DOJ's current marketplace approach outdated.

The Affiliates Associations urged the FCC to formally close its inquiry into the exclusivity rules and to take a fresh look at the virtual MVPD proceeding that has been pending for a number of years.

To the extent that representatives of the Affiliates Associations discussed matters in pending proceedings they relied on the previous filings with the Commission in the form of either Comments or Reply Comments in the dockets referenced above.

A list of the meeting participants is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Feore".

John R. Feore

LIST OF TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

FCC Officials:

Chairman Ajit Pai

Matthew Berry, Chief of Staff

Alexander Sanjenis, Media Advisor to Chairman Pai

Non-Government Representatives:

Michael Hayes (ABC Television Affiliates Association)

Patrick McCreery (CBS Television Network Affiliates Association)

Sandy Breland (FBC Television Affiliates Association)

Pat LaPlatney (NBC Television Affiliates)

Counsel to Affiliates:

Robert McDowell and John Feore, Cooley LLP

Mark Prak and Julia Ambrose, Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP