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July 25, 2017

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Notice of Ex Parte Communications, MB Dockets 14-50, 09-182*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 23, 2017, David Chavern, President and Chief Executive Officer of the News Media Alliance, Danielle Coffey, Vice President of Public Policy for the News Media Alliance, and the undersigned met with Chairman Ajit Pai and Alison Nemeth, Media Advisor to the Chairman, to discuss issues related to the above-referenced dockets.

Mr. Chavern provided the Chairman and Ms. Nemeth with an overview of the state of the industry, emphasizing that readership of news content is at an all-time high even though the economic model for news publishing has come under increasing pressure. Mr. Chavern, Ms. Coffey and the undersigned emphasized that the positions taken in NAA's comments filed in these dockets remain current today, and underscored the importance of repealing the archaic and counterproductive newspaper-broadcast cross-ownership rule. In particular, Mr. Chavern discussed the disadvantages and impediments the rule imposes on newspaper owners seeking investment to fund high-quality, responsible journalism and for the continued transition to digital. Ms. Coffey and the undersigned emphasized that the record in the above-referenced docket provided current and persuasive support for the repeal of the rule. We also stated that the Alliance has long supported a variety of regulatory strategies to foster diversity in ownership.

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Kurt Wimmer

cc: The Hon. Ajit Pai
Ms. Allison Nemeth