

Dear Commissioner,

Received & Inspected
JUL 10 2018
FBI Mailroom

This letter is in reference to MB-Docket 13-203 and is sent within the public commentary time frame. Sinclair TV Group and Albritton Communications Co. have filed application seeking the Commission's approval for the transfer of control of Albritton's eight full power T.V. stations to Sinclair. This action, if approved, would greatly increase Sinclair's percentage of control currently permitted to any one company. Currently, the maximum is 39% and this is not an arbitrary number. It has been in force since the 1940's when the laws were passed to prohibit mass ownership to any one media entity in response to the fascist threat in Europe. They realized that one company retaining a greater proportion would hold power to affect the elections of our government representatives, legislative and presidential. This current proposal by Sinclair appears to be an unabashed attempt to circumvent the US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Washington, in its deliberations of *Free Press vs FCC 17-1129* in how many stations one company can own or control. It is Sinclair's attempt to close on the deal with Albritton before any court decision is reached. Democracy is founded in the free exchange of ideas

Within a marketplace of ideas with diversity on the airwaves. One corporation's control of mass media providing a limited, slanted presentation of "facts" is the direct opposite to this foundation that has held us in good stead all these years. It would be, in fact, the ultimate success of "fake news".

I respectfully request that the Commission delay any action or decision in this matter until the Court of Appeals has had enough time to conclude its deliberations in this weighty matter.

An appreciation of your attention in this matter -
Regina Lester