August 1, 2017

Hon. Michelle M. Carey
Bureau Chief, Media Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th St NW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the matter of MB Docket No. 17-179, Applications of tribune Media Company and Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. For consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations (FCC file No. BTCCDT-20170626AGH, et seq)

Dear Ms. Carey,

It is with pleasure that I write to support the referenced merger of the Tribune Media Company ("Tribune") and Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. ("Sinclair"). The proposed merger involves a transfer of ownership control pursuant to which Sinclair will acquire all of the outstanding shares of the Tribune and resulting in Tribune’s 33 license subsidiaries becoming indirect subsidiaries of Sinclair.

In my view, Sinclair represents a bridge to the Caribbean through Mr. Armstrong Williams. Expansion for Sinclair Broadcasting represents increased opportunity for the under served in the United States and the people of the Caribbean. In unprecedented ways, the Sinclair Broadcasting Group platform(s) and Mr. Armstrong Williams have provided invaluable access to U.S. audiences for political, business and professional leaders of The Bahamas and Caribbean. Approval for the Sinclair Broadcasting group is a decision that will benefit local and global communities. The working environment is significantly enhanced through operational efficiencies and upgrades to the facilities.

The decisions and acquisitions of Sinclair Broadcasting Group demonstrate commitment to uplifting the underserved. I am particularly inspired by Sinclair’s role in providing invaluable assistance to the largest African-American owner of television stations in the country, Mr. Armstrong Williams, who owns Howard Stirk Holdings, LLC. Increase and expansion of the Sinclair/Howard Stirk partnership also represent increased opportunities for yet another underserved community and region, the people of the Caribbean. After the United States, the Caribbean is the strongest region in the Western Hemisphere. The Caribbean diaspora in the United States is strong, particularly in the Eastern seaboard of the United States.
Mr. William’s program, “the Rightside” is syndicated throughout the Caribbean. He serves, therefore, as a bridge that unites cultures and countries. Mr. Williams also represents a symbol of hope and reminder to all of us that seek to be our best selves can be embraced by visionary leadership that makes decisions based on character and ability and not color or class.

Honorable Carey, the undersigned respectfully requests the Commission to grant the proposed merger of Sinclair and Tribune for all of the aforementioned reasons and for the reasons noted in their transfer of control applications. Approval can only allow greater competition that integrates greater diversity in their broadcast services. The merger will facilitate a stronger ally for the people of the communities whom they serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Debbie Bartlett
President and Founder
Gems 105.9 FM
Caribbean Digital Network