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WT 96-86



# County of Hamilton



**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

GREGORY A. WENZ  
Technical Services  
595-8445

RICHARD P. MATHEWS  
Administrative Services  
595-8446

RONALD W. BIEN  
Telecommunications  
595-8448

**SECRETARIES**

LISA SORN  
DANA SCHRATT

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS**

2377 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE  
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45231  
(513) 825-2170

**DIRECTOR**

E. THOMAS BURROUGHS

**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**

WILLIAM H. HINKLE

July 16, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Paul E. Gillmor  
United State Representative  
120 Jefferson  
Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

RE: Public Safety Radio Spectrum Congestion

Dear Representative Gillmor:

The shortage of radio spectrum for use by public safety agencies in Ohio has become a critical issue for which we ask your support in convincing the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to make additional spectrum available for our use.

Over the past two decades, the spectrum made available by the FCC for public safety has fallen far short of the actual demand. The spectrum in 806 MHz band and more recently in the 821 MHz band, while of immeasurable value, has only served to temporarily reduce the degree of shortage rather than satisfy the need. Throughout much of Ohio, there are simply no additional radio channels available for use by public safety, a condition which has been largely unchanged for over 20 years. As Ohio, is one of the nation's most populous state, and continues to grow, we see no recourse but to convince the FCC to allocate additional spectrum for the exclusive use of public safety.

We appreciate your efforts on behalf of public safety within Ohio and elsewhere, and trust that those efforts will be successful in persuading the FCC to respond to our needs. Please call me at (513) 825-2170 if there is any further way in which we can assist in this effort.

Sincerely,

*William H. Hinkle*  
William H. Hinkle  
Operations Director

cc: Ms. Marilyn Ward

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APR 24 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

2

PRESIDENT  
MARILYN WARD

Orlando Police Department  
106 S Hughey Ave.  
Orlando, FL 32801

407.246.2446  
Fax: 407.246.2549  
Voice Mailbox: 888.APCO-9-1-1 Ext.406

WT 96-86  
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ASSOCIATION OF  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
COMMUNICATIONS  
OFFICIALS  
INTERNATIONAL, INC.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
JAMES R. RAND

APCO International Headquarters  
2040 S. Ridgewood Ave.  
South Daytona, FL 32119-8437  
904.322.2500 or 888.APCO-9-1-1 Ext. 222  
Fax: 904.322.2501  
email: randr@apcointl.com

February 25, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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APR 24 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WT Docket 96-86

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Nevada Department of Transportation ("Nevada DOT") has filed Reply Comments in the above-referenced proceeding addressing several issues, including the relative benefits of the Project 25 standard for public safety digital radio equipment. Most of the issues raised by Nevada DOT have been fully addressed by APCO and other parties in this proceeding. However, there is one point which does require a brief response to ensure that the record in this proceeding is correct.

Nevada DOT appears to misunderstand who constitutes Project 25, and how its decisions are made. Nevada DOT suggests that standards should not be selected by "associations such as APCO, which are comprised mainly of dispatchers and non-technical managers." First, that characterization of APCO is incomplete, as a substantial number of APCO members are engineers and technicians. Second, and more importantly, the standard was not selected by APCO. Rather it was selected by the Project 25 Steering Committee, which consists of technically trained individuals representing each of the sponsoring entities, including APCO, the National Association of State Telecommunications Directors ("NASTD") and agencies of the Federal Government. Furthermore, the Project 25 standards were not selected in a vacuum. The Telecommunications Industry Association ("TIA") has been a key player in the Project 25 process, and all of the Project 25 standards were based on TIA committee recommendations.

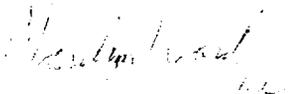
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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
February 25, 1997  
Page Two

Please contact me or our counsel in Washington, Robert Gurs, at (202) 457-7329, should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Marilyn Ward, President

cc: All Commissioners  
Ms. Michele Farquhar, FCC WTB  
Director, Nevada Department of Transportation

*FILED  
1002*



NATIONAL TROOPERS COALITION

*WT 96-86*

112 STATE STREET, SUITE 1212, ALBANY, N.Y. 12207 518-462-7448

February 14, 1997

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CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE  
1415 SOUTH SHELBY  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46203-1946  
FAX 317-631-8221  
317-636-0929

**'APR - 4 1997**

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable  
Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am contacting you in support of the findings of the Public Safety Wireless Committee with regard to the critical needs of our nation's police officers, firefighters, and emergency service personnel to secure additional radio frequency spectrums for effective communications and rapid emergency response.

As you know, during an emergency, rapid and effective response by firefighters, police, and emergency medical services depend upon efficient communications over adequate radio spectrums. Currently, police officers and other members of the public safety community across the nation urgently need access to new spectrums to address the communications needs that include a shortage of radio "talk" time due to congested frequencies and the inability of different emergency service agencies to communicate with each other on the same equipment and frequencies. Lack of communication in a time of crisis results in increased response time, causing additional risk to the safety of both victims and public safety personnel.

As Congress and the Administration begin debate on the FY98 budget, the issue of spectrum sales as a means to augment federal revenue will be addressed. While we do not oppose the selling of spectrums, we want to ensure that the needs of our public safety officials are met first.

Accordingly, we support the recommendations of the Public Safety Wireless Committee and request that you take the appropriate actions necessary to reserve an additional 24 megahertz, or 40 percent, from broadcast channels 60-69 exclusively for use by public safety officials. We look forward to working with you throughout the next few months to ensure that this critical matter is addressed.

Sincerely,

*Johnny L. Hughes*  
Johnny L. Hughes, Director  
of Government Relations  
for James A. Rhinebarger  
Chairman

JLH:nf

*2*

WT 96-86



DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT  
**SERVICES**

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

4050 Esplanade Way • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0950

LAWTON CHILES, GOVERNOR

WILLIAM H. LINDNER, SECRETARY

October 18, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

RECEIVED

The Honorable Reed F. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

APR 24 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: The Development of Operational, Technical  
and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal,  
State and Local Public Safety Agency Communications  
Requirements Through the Year 2010.

WT Docket 96-86

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Public Safety agencies throughout the country are in desperate need of additional radio communications channels. Within Florida, new radio systems can no longer be constructed and existing systems can no longer be expanded in many areas of the state. The completion of our own statewide 800 MHz digital trunked radio system for state law enforcement agencies in Florida is now in jeopardy due to the proposed auction of General Category channels. Local agencies within Florida also face difficulties due to channel congestion, lack of interoperability, and the inability to implement new communications systems due to the unavailability of radio channels.

The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC), jointly sponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its Final Report which concludes that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum immediately for interoperability, at least 25 MHz more within five years, and an additional 70 MHz over the next fifteen years.

On behalf of the State of Florida and its agencies, we submit this letter in strong support of the PSWAC findings, and urge the FCC to take immediate action to allocate new spectrum for public safety use. In particular, we believe that immediate Commission action allocating portions of the current UHF television spectrum between channels 60-69 for public safety use would begin to alleviate the problems that our agencies face. This was suggested in the digital television Docket 87-268. This block of spectrum is considered most suitable for public safety use because it is adjacent to the 800 MHz frequencies already in use by public safety agencies.

Florida's 800 MHz digital trunked radio system, which has been under construction for over five years, will be one of the largest, most technically advanced and most complex radio system ever implemented for a single group of public safety agencies. The system will serve over 10,000 users



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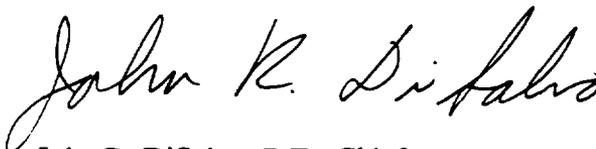
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*[Handwritten signature]*

and has a projected cost of nearly 350 million dollars. The system uses 20 channels from the General Category Pool<sup>1</sup> and 30 from the National Public Safety Plan<sup>2</sup>. The Commission's freeze Order (DA-95-2119) and proposed auction of the General Category channels jeopardizes the remaining three phases of our five-phased construction schedule by not allowing us to modify existing licenses or acquire the additional licenses needed to complete the project. At present there are no alternative channels we can use to complete the system as planned. We have requested a waiver of the freeze Order, but have had no response to date from the Commission. At the same time, we are under pressure from the licensing staff in Gettysburg to maintain our construction schedule in order to maintain the licenses we have. Clearly we cannot continue in these opposing directions indefinitely; either the necessary authorizations must be granted, or we will be forced to abandon the remaining portions of the system into which have gone over 10 years of effort.

We commend PSWAC and the Commission for its very comprehensive efforts in the current proceeding. We emphasize that from the point of view of our agencies, the central and immediate issue is the need for additional spectrum. The many other issues raised by PSWAC and the Commission are of immense importance to the future of communications for public safety. However in Florida, one of the nation's fastest growing states, we must have additional spectrum immediately to accomplish even the most basic functions of insuring the public safety.

Sincerely,



John R. DiSalvo, P.E., Chief  
Bureau of Communications Engineering

JRD:RBF:96-86.wpd

cc: Governor Lawton Chiles  
Senator Bob Graham  
Senator Connie Mack  
APCO Headquarters  
Joint Task Force Board of Directors  
Glenn Mayne  
Marilyn Ward

---

<sup>1</sup> 806-821/851-866 MHz bands

<sup>2</sup> 821-824/866-869 MHz bands



**NEWPORT BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT**

870 Santa Barbara Drive, P.O. BOX 7000, Newport Beach, CA 92658-7000

**BOB McDONELL**  
Chief of Police

WT 96-86

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

July 16, 1996

**RECEIVED**

'APR 24 1997

Honorable Christopher Cox  
United States House of Representatives  
2402 Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0547

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Congressman Cox:

The Federal Communications Commission may soon propose reallocating TV channels 60-69 (746-806 MHz) away from television service, with 24 MHz of this spectrum identified for public safety use nationwide. The Newport Beach Police Department joins the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials-International (APCO), in urging adoption of this plan.

The advent of NCIC-2000 and similar new technologies, as well as current unmet needs within the public safety community, require that this spectrum be allocated to public safety use before it is auctioned or otherwise disbursed for other less critical uses. The Newport Beach Police Department, and many of our neighboring public safety agencies, face a critical shortage of available spectrum.

While these upper UHF-TV bands would be ideal for mobile use, especially for the implementation of new technologies, we must note that this 24 MHz would only be a small part of the overall spectrum required for public safety over the next few years. There is a critical need in California for more UHF channels. We hope the FCC will also entertain additional sharing between broadcast television and public safety within the 450-512 MHz band.

Please join us in encouraging the FCC to provide additional spectrum for essential public safety operations here in California.

Sincerely,

Bob McDonell  
CHIEF OF POLICE

cc: Federal Communications Commission, Chairman Reed Hundt  
Association of Public Safety Communications Officials

Office of the Chief (714) 644-3791 / Support Services (714) 644-3654 / Patrol-Traffic (714) 644-3742 / Detectives (714) 644-3790

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W 1 16 - 06

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

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'APR 24 1997

ROBERT J. GAFFNEY  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
POLICE COMMISSIONER  
F. COSGROVE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

October 18, 1996

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Public safety and other agencies across the country in major metropolitan areas are in desperate need of additional radio communication channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC), jointly sponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "final report". This report concludes that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum right now for interoperability, at least 25 MHz within five (5) years, and an additional 70 MHz over the next fifteen (15) years.

The Suffolk County Police Department submits this letter in strong support of the PSWAC findings, and urges that the FCC take immediate action to allocate spectrum for public safety use. Public safety agencies across the country face difficulty in addressing communication problems due to the congestion in major metropolitan areas such as New York City, Los Angeles, Austin, Chicago and Boston. The lack of interoperability, and the inability to implement new communication technologies, is a constant concern and set back. These problems are mainly caused by a lack of available radio channels.

Suffolk County Police have fortunately adopted 800 MHz trunked radio technology for voice communications. However, we are now seeking spectrum to implement mobile data technology for approximately 900 subscriber units. We hope to be able to do this in the UHF band and create a police network west into New York City.

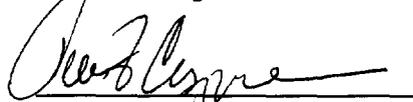
Immediate Commission action, allocating portions of current UHF television spectrum between Channels 60-69 for public safety use, would begin to alleviate the problem most agencies face. This was suggested in the Digital Television Docket 87-268. This block of spectrum is ideal for public safety use as it is adjacent to

2

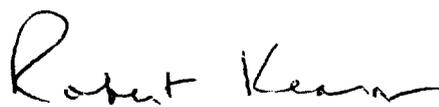
frequencies currently used for mobile radio operations by federal, state and local government agencies. Suffolk County Police is interested in spectrum that will permit an interoperability with the Nassau County Police, New York City Police and the many other local law enforcement agencies adjacent to Suffolk County, New York.

It is certainly our concern and desire that the Commission take swift action to meet the spectrum needs of public safety agencies throughout the nation.

Sincerely,

  
Peter F. Cosgrove  
Police Commissioner

PFC:VRS:ec

  
Robert Kearon  
Deputy Commissioner



WT - 96 - 86  
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**COUNTY OF LUCAS**

**E 9-1-1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER**

October 11, 1996

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**'APR 24 1997**

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY**

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Administrator

THOMAS E. BODI  
E 9-1-1 Director

(419) 249-0200

Fax (419) 241-7919

The Honorable Reed F. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street N.W.  
Washington D.C., 20554

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Re: MM Docket No. 87-268 Advanced Television Systems and their impact upon  
Existing Television Broadcast Services

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Lucas County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center wishes to express its support for the Federal Communications Commission action to reallocate the current UHF broadcast television channels 60-69, and make a portion of that spectrum available for public safety use. The first step in the process is reallocation of UHF Channels 60-69 as proposed in the above referenced digital television proceeding.

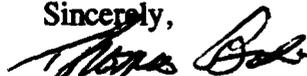
There is currently an urgent need in many parts of the country for additional public safety radio channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC), cosponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "Final Report" which found that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHZ of additional spectrum right now for interoperability, at least 25 MHZ with five (5) years, and an additional 70 MHZ with the next fifteen (15) years.

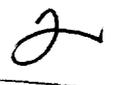
Lucas County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center agrees with the PSWAC findings. Only immediate FCC action in making available new spectrum can help to alleviate the problems faced by Lucas County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center, many other public safety agencies around the nation.

The spectrum at issue is ideal for public safety use. The block of UHF channels between 60 and 69 is adjacent to the 800 MHZ mobile radio frequencies heavily used by public safety agencies.

Lucas County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center urges the Commission to act expeditiously and favorably in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Thomas E. Bodi



**ADDISON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1**

10 S. Addison Road, Addison, Illinois 60101-3870  
 Business Phone: (630)628-3100 • Fax: (630)543-9742

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
 OFFICE OF SECRETARY

ADMINISTRATION

Timothy F. Deuschle  
 Fire Chief

John R. Kreft  
 Deputy Chief

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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 Patrick A. Amerena  
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 Anthony J. LaRocca  
 Secretary

November 5, 1996

The Honorable Reed F. Hundt  
 Chairman  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 1919 M Street, N.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20554

MM Docket No. 87-268

Re: Advanced Television Systems  
 and their Impact upon the  
 Existing Television Broadcast Service

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The Addison Fire Protection District wishes to express its strong support for Federal Communications Commission action to reallocate the current UHF broadcast television channels 60-69, and make a portion of that spectrum available for public safety use. The first step in the process is reallocation of UHF channels 60-69 as proposed in the above referenced digital television proceeding.

There is currently an urgent need in many parts of the country for additional public safety radio channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PPSWAC), co-sponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "Final Report" which found that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum right now for interoperability, at least 25 MHz within five (5) years, and an additional 70 MHz within the next fifteen (15) years.

The Addison Fire Protection District agrees with the PSWAC findings. Radio communications during emergency operations is an important factor, and the use of multiple frequencies is imperative during fire and mass causality incidents.

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Page 2  
FCC

Only immediate FCC action in making available new spectrum can help to alleviate the problems faced by the Addison Fire Protection District, and many other public safety agencies around the nation.

The spectrum at issue is ideal for public safety use. The block of UHF channels between 60 and 69 is adjacent to the 800 MHz mobile radio frequencies heavily used by public safety agencies.

The Addison Fire Protection District urges the Commission to act expeditiously and favorably in this matter.

Sincerely  
ADDISON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Timothy F. Deuschle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and 'D'.

Timothy F. Deuschle  
Fire Chief



Special System Services

RECEIVED

DEC 18 4 07 PM '96

1 Wayne Circle  
Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Business: (215) 699-4427  
Residence: (215) 699-4426

December 17, 1996

Federal Communications Commission  
Private Wireless Division  
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 24 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Attention : John J. Borkowski

Subject : Comments on Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to examine operational, technical and spectrum requirements for Public Safety communications through the year 2010. (WT Docket No. 96-86)

Dear Mr. Borkowski,

Special System Services is a communications consulting firm representing The County of Lancaster, PA. Extensive studies have been conducted from 1990 to present to determine the needs of the Public Safety / Public Service operations in the County. The conclusion to eliminate the incompatible, antiquated communications systems on low band, high band and 450 MHz has been unanimous among the end users and now has the support and funding from the County Commissioners. The technology required and the number of end users (4200), dictates the implementation of an 800 MHz trunked system with sufficient channels (40) and bandwidth (25 KHz) to handle the Police transmissions of data, mugshots and fingerprints.

The adjacent and nearby Counties and the State of Pennsylvania are in various stages of construction of 800 MHz trunked systems. To compatibly interoperate with these agencies it is imperative that the 800 MHz system technology be implemented in Lancaster County, PA. All frequencies in the NPSPAC Region 28 plan have been allocated in the Lancaster County area. All 806 - 824 frequencies are licensed in the area of Lancaster County.

It is therefore, Lancaster County's request that the FCC reallocate the portion of spectrum now allocated to UHF TV Channels 60 - 69 to the Public Safety service for the support of the safety of its citizens and their property.

Sincerely,

T. Fred Short, President

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**MICHAEL P. JACOBSON**  
COMMISSIONER

THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION  
TRAILER #1  
SHORE ROAD  
EAST ELMHURST N.Y. 11370

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**APR 24 1997**

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

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**RONALD GALLETTA**  
CHIEF OF SECURITY

The Honorable Reed F. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: The Development of Operational, Technical  
and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal,  
State and Local Public Safety Agency Communication  
Requirements Through the Year 2010

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Public Safety agencies across the country are in desperate need of additional radio communications channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee ("PSWAC"), jointly sponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "Final Report" which concludes that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum right now for interoperability, at least 25 MHz within five (5) years, and additional 70 MHz over the next fifteen (15) years.

The New York City Department of Correction submits this letter in strong support of the PSWAC findings, and urges that the FCC take immediate action to allocate spectrum for safety use. Public safety agencies across the country face difficulty in addressing the problems of congestion, lack of interoperability and the inability to implement new communications technologies. The problems are mainly caused by lack of available channels. Currently our communications system consist of one city wide channel utilized by our Transportation Division. Our Emergency Response Unit utilizes an 800 MHz radio system which can only be used within the city limits, outside the city limits they must switch to a point to point communication frequency. If an emergency arises outside the city limits we are left to rely on the availability of a State Patrol. It should be noted that we transport notorious inmates back and forth to state facilities and hospitals.

Immediate Commission action allocating portions of current UHF television spectrum between channels 60-69 for public safety use could begin to alleviate the problems these agencies face. This was suggested in the digital television Docket 87-

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268. This block of spectrum is ideal for public safety use as it is adjacent to frequencies currently used for mobile radio operations by federal, state and local agencies.

The New York City Department of Correction requests that the commission take expeditious action to meet the spectrum needs of public safety agencies nationwide.

Sincerely,



Ronald Galletta  
Chief of Security  
NYC Department of Correction

cc: Michael P. Jacobson, Commissioner  
Bernard Kerik, First Deputy Commissioner  
Eric M. Taylor, Chief of Department



# NEWPORT BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

870 Santa Barbara Drive, P.O. BOX 7000, Newport Beach, CA 92658-7000

BOB McDONELL  
Chief of Police

July 16, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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APR 14 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Honorable Christopher Cox  
United States House of Representatives  
2402 Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0547

Dear Congressman Cox:

The Federal Communications Commission may soon propose reallocating TV channels 60-69 (746-806 MHz) away from television service, with 24 MHz of this spectrum identified for public safety use nationwide. The Newport Beach Police Department joins the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials-International (APCO), in urging adoption of this plan.

The advent of NCIC-2000 and similar new technologies, as well as current unmet needs within the public safety community, require that this spectrum be allocated to public safety use before it is auctioned or otherwise disbursed for other less critical uses. The Newport Beach Police Department, and many of our neighboring public safety agencies, face a critical shortage of available spectrum.

While these upper UHF-TV bands would be ideal for mobile use, especially for the implementation of new technologies, we must note that this 24 MHz would only be a small part of the overall spectrum required for public safety over the next few years. There is a critical need in California for more UHF channels. We hope the FCC will also entertain additional sharing between broadcast television and public safety within the 450-512 MHz band.

Please join us in encouraging the FCC to provide additional spectrum for essential public safety operations here in California.

Sincerely,

Bob McDonell  
CHIEF OF POLICE

cc: Federal Communications Commission, Chairman Reed Hundt  
Association of Public Safety Communications Officials

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**ERICSSON** 

WT, 96-86

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

July 12, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

~~RECEIVED~~

~~APR 24 1997~~

~~FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY~~

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to you today on behalf of Ericsson Inc, Private Radio Systems ("Ericsson PRS"), regarding the spectrum needs of public safety wireless communications systems. Ericsson PRS, located in Lynchburg, Virginia, is a major manufacturer of such wireless equipment and networks. We have actively participated in the on-going deliberations of the Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee ("PSWAC" or the "Advisory Committee") which was jointly established by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or the "Commission") and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") to provide them with advice and recommendations on the various communications requirements of public safety agencies. As you are aware, a major issue being addressed by the PSWAC, and in the Commission's accompanying rule making proceeding in WT Docket No. 96-86, is the amount and source of the spectrum that will be required to meet the needs of local, state and federal agencies for wireless communications systems through the year 2010.

As part of its studies, the PSWAC has developed a sophisticated model for estimating the amount of spectrum required to support critical non-federal public safety needs through the relevant time period. It has also studied the technical and other characteristics of various frequency ranges that might be reallocated to satisfy those requirements. While the Advisory Committee's work has not yet been completed, its deliberations are fast coming to a conclusion. As a Member of the Steering Committee, it is safe to say at this time that additional spectrum will be needed in the near and immediate future by the nation's diverse group of public safety agencies if we expect them to fulfill their responsibilities.

It is my understanding that the Commission will soon be considering transition options relating to advanced television transmission techniques and whether any of the existing television channels, including channels 60-69, can be reclaimed for other uses. I am writing today to urge the Commission to consider whether these channels, or some of them, can be set aside for public safety use. I do so for four basic reasons. First, and



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Ericsson Inc.  
Private Radio Systems  
Mountain View Road  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24502

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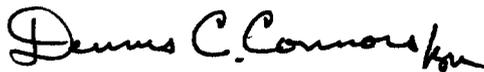
Telephone: (804) 528-7000

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
July 12, 1996  
Page 2

foremost, the public safety community is critically dependent upon wireless communications for efficiently and effectively fulfilling their mission of protecting the safety of life and property. Clearly, supporting public safety agencies is one of the highest value uses of the radio spectrum resource. Second, the 60 MHz of radio spectrum represented by television channels 60-69 lies immediately adjacent to the 800 MHz land mobile radio bands currently utilized by many public safety agencies. This close proximity means significant economies can be achieved in the manufacture of the necessary equipment for use in the new band and, importantly, it will facilitate interoperability between and among different public safety agencies. Third, radio frequencies in this range have very desirable properties in terms of building penetration and therefore are particularly desirable in large urban areas where spectrum scarcity is particularly acute. Fourth, and finally, it is my understanding that these particular television channels are used relatively lightly. This suggests that they could be utilized quickly for public safety systems in many areas of the country.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you and your colleagues to seek comments on the options that are available to the nation's television licensees to transition to advance transmission techniques and whether those options pose an opportunity to reclaim some of the current television assignments for public safety wireless communications requirements. As a major manufacturer of private land mobile radio systems, including public safety systems, Ericsson PRS is committed to continuing to develop and market technologically advanced systems that will make efficient use of any reallocated spectrum.

Sincerely,



Dennis C. Connors  
Vice President  
Global Product Development and Operations

cc: Commissioner James H. Quello  
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong  
Commissioner Susan Ness

WT 96-86

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360 675 4717

P.002

**9-1-1**

Island County Emergency Services Communications Center

**► I-COM ◀**

3084 - 300th Ave. West • Oak Harbor, WA 98277 • Bus: (360) 679-6792 • Fax: (360) 675-4717

**RECEIVED**

July 12, 1996

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**APR 24 1997**

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Reed Hundt, FCC  
Jack Metcalf, Congressional District 2 Representative  
FAX: (202)225-4420 Washington D.C.  
(360)733-5144 Bellingham  
Ross Morris, APCO International President  
FAX: (360)438-7437

Subject: Release of radio spectrum in the 60-69 range

Island County is located adjacent to a large urban area and just below the Canadian border. Because of the location, virtually no frequencies are available without causing interference or receiving considerable interference.

In a county which is growing rapidly such as Island County, more spectrum needs to be opened up for public safety needs.

Further, the advent of NCIC 2000 and new technologies will cause public safety needs that should be met prior to any other disbursement.

I support the release of the some of the channels in the 60-69 frequency range for public safety use and believe the FCC should consider and allow some of this spectrum for the vital needs of public safety in this country.

Sincerely,

*Kathy McClymont*  
Kathy McClymont  
Director

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WT 96-86 ✓

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FROM: SNOPAC COMMUNICATIONS

TO:

368 438 7437

JUL 12, 1996 5:33PM #224 P.02

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# SNOPAC 9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS

3000 ROCKEFELLER, M/S 302  
EVERETT, WASHINGTON 98201  
PHONE: (206) 388-3814  
FACSIMILE: (206) 258-1414

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

July 12, 1996

Mr. Jack Metcalf, Congressional District 2  
507 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Mr. Reed Hundt  
Director, Federal Communications Commission  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Hundt:

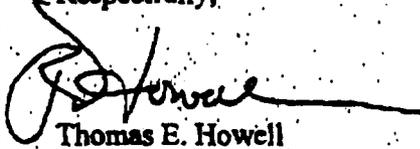
It has come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission is considering an auction of radio spectrum in the 60-69 megahertz range.

From my perspective as a dispatch center director, the availability of public safety radio channels should be a high priority. There is an extraordinary need for spectrum to support police and fire radio systems.

Before this auction becomes a reality I urge you to set aside a portion of the specified radio spectrum for the present and future purposes of public safety communications.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Thomas E. Howell  
Director

cc: Ross A. Morris, President, Assn. of Public Safety Communication  
Officials, Inc.



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chief Terry Ollis,  
CHAIRMAN

Deputy Chief  
Bob Stiles,  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

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Mr. Richard Smith  
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Undersheriff,  
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### SNOPAC DIRECTOR:

Thomas E. Howell

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*Jh*

CITY OF

# Glendale CALIFORNIA

421 Oak Street, Glendale, CA 91204-1298

(818) 548-4814

July 15, 1996

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**APR 24 1997**

Fire  
Division  
OFFICE OF THE  
FIRE CHIEF

The Honorable Carlos Moorehead  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Congressman Moorehead:

The Federal Communications Commission may soon propose reallocating television channels 60-69 (746-806) from its current use in the television service, with 24MHz of this spectrum identified for public safety use. The Glendale Fire Department joins the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International (APCO), in urging adoption of this plan.

The advent of new technologies, as well as current unmet needs within the public safety community, require additional spectrum be allocated to public safety use before it is auctioned or otherwise disbursed for other less critical uses. The Glendale Fire Department and many of our neighboring public safety agencies, face a critical shortage of available spectrum.

While these upper UHF-TV bands would be ideal for mobile use, especially for the implementation of new technologies, we must note that this 24MHz would only be a small part of the overall spectrum required for public safety over the next few years. There is a critical need in California for more UHF channels. We hope the FCC will also entertain additional sharing between broadcast television and public safety within the 470-512MHz band.

Please join me in encouraging the FCC to provide additional spectrum for essential public safety operations here in California. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at (818) 548-4814.

Sincerely,

*Richard E. Hinz*  
RICHARD E. HINZ  
Fire Chief

cc: Federal Communications Commission, Chairman Reed Hundt  
Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials



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WHATCOM SHERIFF

002

**WHATCOM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Public Safety Building  
311 Grand Avenue  
Bellingham, Washington 98225-4078

**DALE BRANDLAND, Sheriff**



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

July 15, 1996

Reed Hundt & Congressman Jack Metcalf  
c/o Ross Morris  
APCO International President

Dear Mr. Hundt & Congressman Metcalf:

I am sorry that I did not respond earlier but I just got your teletype. I feel very strongly that we in public safety have emergency frequency needs that are not being met. I currently have 3 agencies sharing our frequency and by next year it could be 7 agencies. We need more frequency options.

Please forgive me for making this short. I wanted to get back to you today and don't have time to go into more depth.

Sincerely yours,

Dale E. Brandland, Sheriff

DEB/nh

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92717

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APR 14 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Christopher Cox  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0547

Dear Sir,

I am requesting that you would support any plan that would provide additional UHF channels for public safety use. I understand that this issue will be heard before the Federal Communications Commission on July 18, 1996.

The advent of NCIC-2000 and similar new technologies, as well as current unmet needs within the public safety community, requires additional resources. I am encouraging the FCC to reallocate at least 24 MHz to public safety use before it is auctioned or disbursed for other less critical uses.

Thank you for your consideration in advance.

Sincerely,

Kathy Stanley  
Chief of Police

cc: Ross Morris  
APCO President  
Reed Hundt  
FCC Chairman

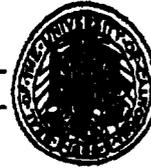
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POLICE DEPARTMENT

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92717

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator,

I am requesting that you would support any plan that would provide additional UHF channels for public safety use. I understand that this issue will be heard before the Federal Communications Commission on July 18, 1996.

The advent of NCIC-2000 and similar new technologies, as well as current unmet needs within the public safety community, requires additional resources. I am encouraging the FCC to reallocate at least 24 MHz to public safety use before it is auctioned or disbursed for other less critical uses.

Thank you for your consideration in advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kathy Stanley", is written over a horizontal line.

Kathy Stanley  
Chief of Police

cc: Ross Morris  
APCO President  
Reed Hundt  
FCC Chairman

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ



POLICE DEPARTMENT

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92717

Senator Barbra Boxer  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator,

I am requesting that you would support any plan that would provide additional UHF channels for public safety use. I understand that this issue will be heard before the Federal Communications Commission on July 18, 1996.

The advent of NCIC-2000 and similar new technologies, as well as current unmet needs within the public safety community, requires additional resources. I am encouraging the FCC to reallocate at least 24 MHz to public safety use before it is auctioned or disbursed for other less critical uses.

Thank you for your consideration in advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kathy Stanley".

Kathy Stanley  
Chief of Police

cc: Ross Morris  
APCO President  
Reed Hundt  
FCC Chairman