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**Building The
Wireless Future™**

CTIA

Cellular
Telecommunications
Industry Association
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May 1, 1998

Ms. Magalie R. Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 222
Washington DC 20554

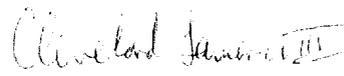
Re: Ex Parte Presentation
CC Docket # 94-102 (E911—Strongest Signal)

Dear Ms. Salas:

On Friday, May 1, 1998, the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association ("CTIA"), represented by Brain Fontes, George Shaginaw, Michael Altschul and Ed Hall, met with Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth and Paul Misener, Legal Advisor, Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth's Office, regarding the above-referenced proceeding. The parties discussed CTIA's position on this matter, in conjunction with the attached materials.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, an original and one copy of this letter and its attachment are being filed with your office. If you have any questions concerning this submission, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,


Cleveland Lawrence III

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**CTIA Ex Parte Presentation
Strongest Signal Proposal
CC Docket 94-102**

What is the "Strongest Signal Proposal"? - It is a proposed method whereby the dialed 911 call will seek the strongest control channel in an Analog Cellular Wireless System.

Is the "control channel" the same as the "voice channel" on which the conversation takes place? - No! The "control channel" assigns the "voice channel" that the call conversation takes place on.

Is the "Strongest Signal Proposal" the best way to complete a 911 call? - This is the issue currently under debate. The Ad Hoc Alliance believes it is, CTIA representing the wireless industry, and the Public Safety Community represented by NENA and APCO believe it is not.

If it's not the best approach what are your concerns?

1. Increased 911 call blockage as handsets seek "strongest control channel" ignoring pool of available and useable voice channels.
2. Increased call set up time as phones will need to scan more than twice the number of control channels searching for and comparing the strongest. This delay could add up to 10 seconds to normal call processing causing customer to hang up and redial in an emergency situation.
3. Selecting "strongest control channel" does not ensure best "voice channel".
4. Customer may not be connected to carrier where customer information resides so that E-911 information can be forwarded to appropriate PSAP.
5. Removes incentives for carriers to deploy advanced location features.
6. Technical implications and costs not reviewed and developed.

If you are concerned then what are you doing?

1. Reviewing "Trott Report" supporting "strongest signal" in TIA subcommittee TR-45. Findings to be reported to TIA on 6/4/98.
2. CTIA to submit Standard Request Document (SRD) to TIA on 6/4 to define best ways to complete 911 calls. "Strongest Signal Proposal" will be prioritized for consideration and CTIA will request a report from TIA at the September meeting.
3. CTIA to complete "911 Call Completion Study" using "strongest control channel" approach and to submit results to TIA on 6/4 for consideration in SRD.
4. Moving to educate carriers and customers on recommendations in WEIAD Report on A/B Carrier select and handset programming.

What do you expect from the Policy Makers?

Recognition that the wireless industry and public safety community are making substantial progress in implementing emergency wireless services and mandates. Support this effort by allowing a comprehensive approach to emergency services to develop through a joint industry and public safety effort. Allow technical and complex system issues to be addressed in a forum that can best provide the answers with a full and complete record developed that allows for implementation of services to meet public expectations and needs.