



# SHASTA COUNTY

## Office of the Sheriff

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January 8, 2015

FCC Mail Room

Tom Bosenko  
SHERIFF - CORONER

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Southwest  
Washington, DC, 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: WC Docket # 12-375

Secretary Dortch,

I am writing to you as Sheriff of Shasta County, California. The Sheriff has the constitutional responsibility to operate the county jail. I am concerned about the potential changes for inmate phone services commissions.

In California, commissions from inmate phone services are placed in a special inmate welfare fund (IMF). Inmate Welfare Fund expenditures are regulated by the California Penal Code. Expenditures are overseen by the County Auditor, the Grand Jury, and other entities.

I urge you and the FCC to maintain the current revenue model for inmate phone services. If commissions were reduced or eliminated, it would have a negative impact on inmate programs and services. These impacts would also directly and negatively affect the Sheriff's Office budget and the County budget as well. Each year, inmate phone services commissions fund nearly \$240,000 of inmate programs and services. These include, but are not limited to, inmate high school/GED and college level education programs, vocation training within and outside the jail, inmate programs, inmate legal research program, indigent inmate writing materials, postage and other products, inmate support and care, religious services, and more.

These inmate services and programs are vital for inmate's academic and vocational development, social skill development, and recidivism reduction. All of these assist the inmate in transitioning into a socially acceptable lifestyle. Any changes to inmate phone services commissions should be implemented over a four year adjustment period rather than immediate implementation.

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I strongly oppose reductions to inmate phone services commissions. I urge you and the FCC to maintain current commission levels. Should any reductions occur, they should be implemented over a four year period. Such a transition period would be similar to 2007 Senate Bill 81 implemented upon the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Bosenko". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "B".

TOM BOSENKO  
Sheriff-Coroner

C: Cathy Coyne, CSSA