



**CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**

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**Received & Inspected**

**AUG 03 2015**

**FCC Mail Room**

**Alice A. Huffman**  
*President*

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

**Gwen Moore**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*

Re: MB Docket No. 15-149

**EX PARTE OR LATE FILED**

**Rick Callender**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

**Paulette Simpson Gipson**  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President*

The California Hawaii State Conference writes in support of the proposed merger between Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks. Approving this proposal would help the newly formed New Charter in promoting diversity by emphasizing progressive inclusion practices and ensuring access to independently owned and minority-focused programming.

**Ida M. Johnson**  
*Secretary*

With Charter Communications' proven and committed record, this merger would promote better relations with many minority groups, including African Americans, women, veterans and the disabled. For example, New Charter has pledged to bring back thousands of jobs from overseas and implement expanded diversity and inclusion hiring practices. There would be continued outreach to minority businesses and commitments to supplier diversity. Lastly, they will also offer increased access to low-income broadband programs.

**Olivia Verrett**  
*Assistant Secretary*

**Carolyn Veal Hunter**  
*Treasurer*

Supplier diversity is especially key to us, as Charter Communications has pledged to ensure that its customers retain access to diverse programming. It currently offers programming to 15 minority-focused television networks, including several African American focused or owned networks, such as BET, Bounce TV, TV ONE and Centric. These channels are an important voice and outlet to our community and it is essential that they have as wide an access to their target audiences as possible.

**Waudier Rucker-Hughes**  
*Area Director Southeast*

**Ronald Hasson**  
*Area Director Southwest*

**Delois Edwards**  
*Area Director North*

For the reasons stated above, it is clear that Charter is committed to being a leading company in promoting diversity and inclusion, being a responsible corporate citizen, and assuring access to independent and diverse programming. We write to you now especially to bring these matters to the forefront, as they can be lost in a conversation that is often dominated by net neutrality or market share.

**LaJuana Bivens**  
*Area Director Central*

**Dan Daniels, Sr.**  
*Area Director Coastal*

Thank you for considering our letter and please do not hesitate to reach out to me, or my organization, for further support when considering this merger.

**Freddye Davis**  
*Area Director West*

Sincerely,

  
Alice A. Huffman  
AAH:da

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