



Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC 20554

In the Matter of)
)
Nomination for Universal Service) CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45
Administrative Company Board of Directors)

RE-NOMINATION OF JULIE TRITT-SHELL FOR THE USAC BOARD

This letter is written in full support of the re-nomination of Julie Tritt-Schell to USAC's Board of Directors to continue to represent schools as part of the Schools and Libraries Committee.

During Ms. Tritt-Schell's tenure on the Board, USAC's E-Rate Program has undergone tectonic change and she has been instrumental in bridging the gap between theory and practice, making the transition much smoother for the applicants affected in the field. Her understanding of the program and all of its nuances is surpassed only by her passion for ensuring its continued success. After all, she has been filing E-Rate applications since the program's inception and has been intimately involved in its evolution every step of the way.

As we are all aware, there is still much work to be done to round out the Commission's vision of a Broadband-centric program and we contend the Committee's effectiveness will be diminished without Julie's thoughtful insight and involvement on an almost daily basis.

CSM is considered one of the nation's largest and most trusted E-Rate Consulting firms. We have successfully filed for nearly \$2B in funding for our more than 350 clients over the last 12 years of the program. Over that time, no one has represented the school applicant community more effectively and with more positive results than Ms. Tritt-Schell.

We proudly support Julie Tritt-Schell's re-nomination to USAC's Board of Directors in order that she can continue to advocate on behalf of every school applicant in the nation and help bring a level of understanding from the program's key stakeholders to the entire Board of Directors that will simply not be present in her absence.

Regards,

Handwritten signature of Kimberly M. Friends

Kimberly M. Friends
Vice-President, E-Rate Compliance
November 11, 2015