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December 16, 2015

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

RE: Review of the Emergency Alert System (EB Docket No. 04-296);
Recommendations of the Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane
Katrina on Communications Networks (EB Docket 06-119)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter reports on a meeting that was held December 14, 2015 with Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Chief Admiral **David Simpson**, Special Counsel for Public Safety and Homeland Security **Renee Roland**, Associate Chief of the Policy and Licensing Division of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau **Greg Cooke**; Associate Chief Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, **Nicole McGinnis**, Deputy Chief, Public Safety & Homeland Security, **Zenji Nakazawa**; Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security, **Lisa M. Fowlkes**; Associate General Counsel and Chief of Staff **Jennifer Tatel**, Policy Attorney Advisor Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, **James W. Wiley**. Our delegation to the meeting consisted of MMTC President and CEO, **Kim Keenan**, Senior Advisor and President Emeritus **David Honig**, VP/Research and Policy **Dr. Nicol Turner-Lee**, Research Director, **DeVan Hankerson**, as well as MMTC Media and Telecom Brokers Director, **Suzanne Gougherty**, by phone.

At the meeting, we discussed the following two points regarding the pending Petition for Emergency Relief filed on September 20, 2005 by MMTC, the Spanish Broadcasters Association and the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ (the "Katrina Petition").

1. MMTC requested that the PSHS Bureau work with the Commission toward a workable solution that would achieve the primary goals of the Katrina Petition.

MMTC reiterated the overarching aims of the Petition, which are to ensure that before, during, and immediately after a catastrophic event such as a hurricane, individuals not proficient in English, who find themselves with no operational in-language radio station in the wake of the disaster, will have life-saving in-language information available. We addressed (1) the FCC's

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jurisdiction over the issue; (b) the technical feasibility of MMTC's proposal, and (c) the Petition's focus on the radio broadcast platform.

During the meeting, the FCC staff suggested that MMTC present new proposals in the Petition that include best practices that could be reported as part of State EAS plans.

2. MMTC is exploring a "Good Samaritan" model

MMTC shared in the meeting that the Petition's specific focus on radio broadcast was critical to the dissemination of multilingual emergency alerts. MMTC pointed out that terrestrial radio is still the most ubiquitous and most reliable platform during crises. MMTC is identifying research that distinguishes which specific language groups in major radio markets that should be afforded protected status for multilingual emergency broadcasting. MMTC also suggested that perhaps broadcast stations might be willing to voluntarily provide multilingual emergency broadcasts, and that perhaps the FCC would consider offering some form of regulatory relief for these "Good Samaritans." Finally, MMTC and FCC staff discussed the role of essential emergency personnel with language skills who could be called upon to provide multilingual radio programming during an emergency.

Sincerely,

Kim Keenan
President and CEO

cc: Admiral David Simpson
Renee Roland, Esq.
Greg Cooke, Esq.
Jennifer Tatel, Esq.
Nicole McGinnis, Esq.
Zenji Nakazawa, Esq.
Lisa M. Fowlkes, Esq.
James W. Wiley, Esq.