## **Orange County Branch NAACP**



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## PRESIDENTS EMERITUS

Mr. Rufus Brooks Ms .Marie Palmer Mr. Willie Williams RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Tom Wheeler Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

The NAACP Orange County Branch is proud to contribute to the enduring legacy of the fight for racial equality. Our organization works to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of all people. There are many areas of concern where we work, one of which includes diversity in the media. We believe the proposed transaction between Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks would prioritize diversity and inclusion for the benefit of all Americans.

The merger proposal outlines several commitments the company would make in order to assure it serves in the public's interest. Among these benefits are its commitment to diversity and inclusion, which would include award-winning programs already in place at New Charter's legacy companies.

New Charter would adopt Time Warner Cable's array of diversity initiatives, which include efforts to create a culturally diverse workforce and partner with minority businesses. For example, New Charter would encourage the hiring and mentorship of minority employees and would offer free seminars to minority entrepreneurs interested in joining the cable broadband supply chain. New Charter would also adopt Charter's collection of diverse programming, which includes carrying TV One on its basic tier and also offers BET, Bounce TV, Centric, and Fuse. Diversity in media is important and access to alternative voices is the right of every American.

We support New Charter because it would prioritize diversity and inclusion in the cable broadband industry. We think it would be a great example for its peers, and we urge you to approve the merger.

Sincerely,

Kran Riley, President