



RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

March 8, 2016

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

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

At RIDE TV we offer a twenty-four hour, high definition experience to viewers who love horses as much as we do. There are 30 million Americans who ride horses each year, 20,000 horse shows, and 1 in 63 Americans are directly involved with horses. RIDE TV showcases this important family lifestyle with children's programming, travel shows, documentaries, and championship events. The equestrian lifestyle community is diverse and crosses all socio-economic lines. Our shareholders are a prime example and range from billionaires Alice Walton and John Paul DeJoria to small business owners who all share a passion for the horse lifestyle.

I am writing today in support of the proposed cable broadband company New Charter because the customer footprint of New Charter very dominantly covers horse people. However, we do ask that the FCC consider certain conditions to the merger, including New Charter launching more independent channels. Texas is the number one horse market in the United States, followed by California and Florida. We do not currently have a distribution agreement with Charter, Time Warner Cable or Bright House but we are discussing carriage with Charter and we believe New Charter wants to serve local communities with diverse content that mirrors the interest of their communities. We hope that New Charter will join Dish, Armstrong Cable, and other operators who are carrying RIDE TV and providing consumers with more choices from independent programmers. We hope that New Charter will not only support our mission to showcase the equine lifestyle but will provide a brand we all can support with the quality of its products and services.

We are very appreciative of the recent Notice Of Inquiry (MB Docket No. 16-41) that the Commission has posted regarding the challenges facing independent programmers. We have certainly faced many of those challenges and we plan to file comments. At the same time, there are those operators who truly want to serve the underserved and we believe New Charter will be that kind of partner.

We look forward to working with New Charter, and appreciate their commitment to independent programming so that channels like RIDE TV can be more widely available to American families. Please consider the many positive impacts of this merger and vote to approve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael G. Fletcher".

Michael G. Fletcher  
Chief Executive Officer  
Ride Television Network, Inc.  
[mgf@ridetv.com](mailto:mgf@ridetv.com)

Cc: Kenneth H. Jones, Jr., Craig Morris