



BEST BEST & KRIEGER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Indian Wells
(760) 568-2611

Irvine
(949) 263-2600

Los Angeles
(213) 617-8100

Ontario
(909) 989-8584

2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 5300, Washington, DC 20006
Phone: (202) 785-0600 | Fax: (202) 785-1234 | www.bbklaw.com

Riverside
(951) 686-1450

Sacramento
(916) 325-4000

San Diego
(619) 525-1300

Walnut Creek
(925) 977-3300

Gerard Lavery Lederer
(202) 370-5304
gerard.lederer@bbklaw.com

June 8, 2016

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

Re: *In the Matter of Expanding Consumers' Video Navigation Choices (MB Docket No. 16-42) and Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices (CS Docket No. 97-80)*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 6, 2016, Mitsuko Herrera Montgomery County's ultraMontgomery Program Director; John Lyons, Cable Administrator for Anne Arundel County, Maryland; Max Sevilla Director of External Affairs, New York City Mayor's Office and the undersigned on behalf of a coalition of local governments met with the below identified members of the Commission's Media Bureau.¹

The purpose of our presentation was to reaffirm the coalition members' support for the Commission's plans to create a competitive marketplace for "Set Top Boxes" as articulated in the groups Reply Comments filed May 23, 2016 in the above identified docket. Specifically, the group, referring to the Coalition's filing, made the following points:

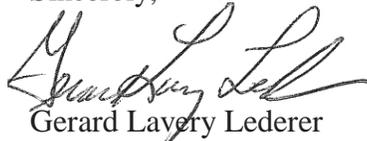
- Section 629 both authorizes and obligates the Commission to assure a commercial market for devices that can access multichannel video programming and other services offered over multichannel video programming systems.
- Consumers have few alternatives to leasing set-top boxes from anyone other than their MVPD is firmly grounded in the record.

¹ There were a number of FCC summer interns present at the meeting. They are listed below but they are not being served electronically as we have no email address for them. In addition, Julius Ware II and Intashan Chowdhury, two MPA candidates from Rutgers University who are spending the summer with Montgomery County joined the local government coalition.

- A competitive marketplace for navigation devices today has the potential to benefit consumers and is supported by service and equipment rate data from local communities, and
- The Commission, as it crafts its final rules, ensure that consumers are entitled to see all “Service Discovery Data” provided by their MVPDs and that consumers employing a competitive box have the ability to identify and find all the programming that their MVPD provides. In taking such action, the Commission will protect and preserve Public, Educational and Governmental (“PEG”) channels and other independent programmers.

Pursuant to the Commission’s rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS with your office. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,



Gerard Lavery Lederer
of BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

cc by email:

FCC Media Bureau
Mary Beth Murphy
Nancy Murphy

FCC Media Front Office
Susan Singer
Anne Russell (intern)

FCC Media, Policy
Kathy Berthot
Maria Mullarkey
Brendan Murray
Arian Attar (intern)
Kelsie Rutherford (intern)

FCC, Office of General Counsel:
Susan Aaron
Matthew Collins
John Williams
Adam Kleven (intern)
Varsha Mangal (intern)

FCC, Office of Strategic Planning
Jonathan Mayer