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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JAMES R. BAYES
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October 29, 1998

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20554

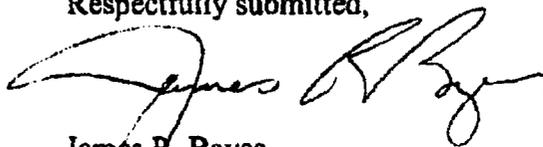
Re: Notification of Permitted *Ex Parte* Presentation: RM 9345, CS Docket No. 98-120

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's rules, this is to provide notification of permitted ex parte presentations by officials of A.H. Belo Corporation ("Belo") on October 28, 1998 in connection with the above-referenced proceedings. The presentations are summarized in the attached memorandum. An original and three copies of this notification and the accompanying memorandum (two for each proceeding) are provided as specified in the Commission's rules.

Kindly direct any questions regarding this notification to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


James R. Bayes

- cc: Chairman William E. Kennard
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth
Commissioner Michael K. Powell
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Susan Fox
Anita Wallgren
Helgi C. Walker
Jane E. Mago
Rick Chessen
Roy Stewart
Robert Ratcliffe

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MEMORANDUM

Re: Permitted Ex Parte Presentations by A.H. Belo Corporation, October 28, 1998; RM-9345, CS Docket No. 98-120

Robert Decherd, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer; Ward Huey, Vice Chairman of the Board and President of the Broadcasting Division; Michael J. McCarthy, Sr., Esq., Executive Vice President and General Counsel; and Regina Sullivan, Vice President of Government and Public Affairs of A.H. Belo Corporation ("Belo") met, in separate meetings, with: (i) Chairman William E. Kennard and Susan Fox, his Senior Legal Advisor; (ii) Commissioner Michael K. Powell and Jane E. Mago, his Senior Legal Advisor; (iii) Commissioner Gloria Tristani and Rick Chessen, her Senior Legal Advisor; and (iv) Roy Stewart, Chief, Mass Media Bureau and Robert Ratcliffe, Acting Deputy Chief, Operations, Mass Media Bureau, to discuss issues presented in Belo's September 25, 1998 Opposition to Petition for Declaratory Ruling in RM-9345 and the additional matters summarized below. Richard E. Wiley of Wiley, Rein & Fielding also attended these meetings.

In separate meetings, Robert Dechard and Regina Sullivan met with Commissioner Susan Ness and Anita Wallgren, her Legal Advisor; while Ward Huey and Michael McCarthy met with Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth and Helgi C. Walker, his Legal Advisor. Richard Wiley also attended the latter meeting. In these meetings, Belo officials also discussed issues presented by Belo in the above-cited docket and the additional matters summarized below.

Belo stressed that the vast majority of broadcasters have demonstrated a deep and longstanding commitment of service to their local communities through presentation, at no charge to viewers, of local news, public service programming, and emergency information that is not matched by any of their competitors in today's -multi-outlet, multi-channel marketplace. To maintain their tradition of service to their communities of license and meet the demands of the digital age, broadcasters need assurance of a regulatory framework that recognizes the vital importance of localism and the unique role played by free, over-the-air broadcast service, and fosters the continued viability of broadcast stations as outlets for local concerns. Ingredients essential to this framework include a successful transition to DTV, which in Belo's view requires mandatory DTV signal carriage, and preservation of broadcasters' long-established proprietary rights to serve their local markets, as contemplated by Congress in the Satellite Home Viewer Act.