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July 28, 1999

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
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The Portals
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JUL 28 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: *Ex Parte Notice*
In the Matter of Carriage of the Transmissions
Of Digital Television Broadcast Stations
Amendments to Part 76 of the Commission's Rules
CS Docket No. 98-120

Dear Ms. Roman Salas:

The Association for Maximum Service Television ("MSTV") hereby notifies the Commission that Margita White, President of MSTV, Victor Tawil, Vice President of MSTV, and Jonathan Blake and Ellen Goodman, counsel for MSTV, met yesterday with Thomas Power, Legal Assistant to Chairman Kennard.

We discussed cable carriage issues and reiterated MSTV positions already set forth in writing in this docket, most recently in the letter from Margita White to Deborah Lathen of July 15, 1999. In particular, we stressed the importance of completing the cable carriage rulemaking as soon as possible so that broadcasters going on the air with DTV signals and negotiating cable retransmission consent agreements, and cable systems rapidly upgrading their systems, know the rules of the road. It is our understanding that the Commission remains committed to concluding the cable carriage rulemaking by the end of the year. We also covered the cable interoperability issues addressed in the letter from Margita White to Chairman Kennard of July 22, 1999, and urged again that the FCC step in to ensure that industry promises are converted into industry implementation of interoperable standards.

Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen P. Goodman
Attorney for MSTV

cc. Mr. Power

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