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May 8, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554**RECEIVED**
MAY 08 2000
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARYRe: Notice of Ex Parte Communication in
WT Docket 96-86

Dear Ms: Salas:

This is to inform the Commission that on May 5, 2000, representatives of the International Association of Chiefs of Police met with the following individuals at the Commission regarding the recommendations of the Public Safety National Coordination Committee that are being considered in the above-referenced proceeding:

Commissioner Gloria Tristani and her Legal Advisor, Adam Krinsky
Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth
Mark Schneider, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Ness
Kathleen O'Brian Ham and Michael Wilhelm of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

Enclosed herewith are two copies of an outline of their discussions, copies of which were also provided to Commission personnel during the meetings.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert M. GursNo. of Copies rec'd 012
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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
May 8, 2000
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cc: Honorable Gloria Tristani
Honorable Harold Furchtgott-Roth
Kathleen O'Brian Ham, Deputy Chief WTB
Mark Schneider, Esq.
Adam Krinsky, Esq.
Michael Wilhelm, Esq.
Chief Harlin McEwen
Chief Thomas Roche
Sgt. John Powell

Enclosures

International Association of Chiefs of Police

Discussion Points for FCC Meetings, May 5, 2000

Urgent FCC Action on Public Safety Required/WT Docket Number 96-86

1. Spectrum efficiency is an important goal, but saving lives now is a higher priority.

Public safety entities need access to this spectrum now, and it is available in many areas. Congress mandated that the FCC begin licensing for this spectrum by **September 1998**. The choice involving which standard to choose for the interoperable channels was debated rigorously within the NCC during the past year. The FCC must take into account the many reasons the NCC made its consensus decision for Project 25 and should not assume that their goal of spectrum efficiency supercedes the NCC's reasoning.

2. FCC must act quickly to ratify NCC recommendations.

The IACP strongly recommends that the FCC reconsider its decision to include these issues in a FNPRM and instead place the NCC recommendation out for comment via an expedited public notice process. Public safety entities that have participated in the resource-intensive NCC process in good faith will now have to continue using their valuable resources participating in a protracted and duplicative FNPRM. This will delay significantly availability of equipment in areas where there are no TV stations and spectrum is currently available. In any event, FCC decision on the interoperability standard should be decided before the next APCO annual conference, August 12-17.

3. Project 25 Phase II Road Map provide availability of different technologies.

Well over three-quarter of a million user and industry man hours have gone into the selection and development of Project 25 Phase I and Phase II standards. Project 25 Phase I is a spectrum efficient standard that is being implemented today and provides a stepping stone for migration to 6.25 KHz technology. The Project 25 Committee has accepted FDMA and TDMA 6.25 KHz equivalent standards for Phase II. In addition to a 6.25 KHz FDMA proposal, the committee has accepted TDMA proposals from Ericsson and ETSI. These standards will interoperate with each other and with Project 25 Phase I using Project 25 Phase I 12.5 KHz technologies. This will allow a public safety user who has purchased Project 25 Phase I infrastructure and equipment to migrate to Phase II and will bring more competitors into the Project 25 market.

Chief Harlin R. McEwen
Chairman, IACP Communications
& Technology Committee
(703) 836-6767
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International Association of Chiefs of Police

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