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NOV 21 2000

November 16 2000

To the Federal Communications Commission

FCC MAIL ROOM

Concerning DOCKET NO 99-339

In opposition to Petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order of VIDEO Description.

I am a Visually Impaired member of Northwest Kansas Assn for Visually Impaired. The Video description in its present form should absolutely be kept as is. There are many visually handicapped people who can enjoy TV programs through this service. Please keep it as it is now.

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UNAB CDE

0

Sincerely

Lawrence Kubin

1109 Doloresa

Uetoria KS 67671

Nov. 7, 2000

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List A B C D E

I am writing this letter
to submitting comments for
Reconsideration of the Video
Description. The FCC Official
filing include Official docket
number which is Docket No.
99-339 Legaly Blind and have
enjoyed Video Description. I am
looking forward to turning on
a television, and enjoying and
knowing what's happening.

That's What Video Description
is all about. Visual Aspects
of the programming.

Video Description is so great
we that are blind and visually
impaired. It give us all who

need st a great enjoyment it's
sure is some thing we will
be looking forward to. And also
are Family.

Edith Joyce Jones

Edith J. Jones
1657 Heron Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA.
94087-4806



Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington,
D.C.

20554



Mark and Mary Smiech
The Salvation Army International Headquarters
Africa Department, Nigeria Territory
101 Queen Victoria Street
London, EC4P 4EP
ENGLAND

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E-Mail: Mark_Smiech@NIG.salvationarmy.org

Thursday, November 9, 2000

Magalie Salas
Secretary Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

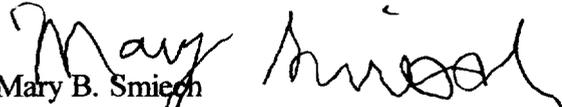
I am submitting comments "IN OPPOSITION TO PETITIONERS FOR Reconsideration OF THE REPORTED ORDER ON VIDEO DESCRIPTION." The official Docket number is Docket No. 99-339.

I am writing to express my appreciation to the Commissioners of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the networks to begin providing video description to people, who are blind and visually impaired. It is very important for someone who cannot see the screen to have an alternative means of knowing what is on the screen. Video description is the means by which this goal can be accomplished. In the past, I have enjoyed video description on a limited basis through the public television Chanel, W. E. D. U. Channel 3, in my home state of Florida. My husband, who is sighted, has watched the programs with me, and it was nice for him to be able to enjoy the show without the added responsibility of having to describe the action to me.

I am a missionary in Nigeria, and they do not have anything close to Descriptive video there. I am looking forward to being on my homeland furlough, (or leave), in April 2001, and turning the television on to enjoy a described program with my family and friends. The video description will also help me to understand the visual aspects of the program. It is essential for visually impaired and blind people to have the same rights as their sighted counterparts. We have the right to watch television and know what is happening on the screen. The petitioners have not provided any new information that was not already known at the time that the FCC made their decision. Your urgent consideration of this matter is needed immediately.

Thank you for your prompt attention.

Very sincerely,


Mary B. Smiech

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Magalie Salas
Secretary Federal Communications
Commission
445 12TH STREET S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554
U.S.A.

Aerogramme



M02/98

Name and address of sender

Mark and Mary Smiech
The Salvation Army International Headquarters
Africa Department, Nigeria Territory
101 Queen Victoria Street
London, EC4P 4EP
ENGLAND

Postcode

An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure

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NORTHERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION
DEKALB, ILLINOIS 60115-2854
(815) 753-1619

November 8, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 99-339

Dear Ms. Salas,

I am writing to urge that the rules on audio description be adopted as soon as possible. With greater emphasis on video displays of all sorts, the only segment of the population who is left out in the cold as it were is the blind. For that group of people, among whom I count myself, I would urge that the rules governing audio description be adopted.

Thank you very much for your consideration if this matter.

Sincerely,

Gaylen Kapperman, Ed.D.
Professor and Coordinator
Teacher Education - Programs in Vision
Faculty of Special Education

GK:jd

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List A B C D E

Mitchell Park Branch Library
3700 Middlefield Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

November 6, 2000

Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Library Division

- Main
- Children's
- College Terrace
- Downtown
- Mitchell Park
- Terman Park

Dear Ms. Salas:

This letter is submitted in regard to docket No. 99-339, with comments "in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description".

I am a reference librarian at a public library and my work has brought me into contact with numerous people who are blind and in need of our services such as books on tape and described videos. The idea of video description is very appealing to people who are losing their eyesight as a result of macular degeneration and can no longer enjoy their favorite T.V. news and entertainment programs. I was also talking with a mother who was blind who told me how much she appreciates described videos because she can participate more fully in what her family is watching. Video description would be a boon to this person and her family, and to the many others in the same situation.

I urge the F.C.C. most strongly to continue their innovative and beneficial scheme to introduce video description for television programming. The F.C.C. made the right decision in July 2000, and as far as I know, no new information has emerged that should change that decision.

Sincerely,



Deborah Angel
Senior Librarian

11/06/00
11:30 AM
LIBRARY

Library Administration
270 Forest Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301
415.329.2516
415.327.2033 Fax

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859 A Elliott Road
Paradise, CA 95969
530 872 34-34
Nov. 9, 2000

NOV 21 2000

FCC MAIL ROOM

Magalie Salas Secretary:
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

This is reference to Docket No. 99-339, I am submitting my opinion in opposition to Petitioners on the groups who want to do away with the video Description for television programing.

I feel Descriptive Video is the best this that has ever happened for the Blind and Visually Impaired. My main experience has been with the Descriptive Video Service and some on channel nine here in our area. Channel nine is an educational station located in Redding Ca. I feel we need more descriptive services. I get rather tired having to ask what is happening during a silent part of a movie.

From my own view I find movies more enjoyable when they have description included. I feel it is the best thing that has ever happened for the blind and visually impaired community and I would encourage every blind and visually impaired person to try it. I feel we should have a right to enjoy movies along with everyone else and discriptive video gives us that right. This Federal Communication Commission ruling is a vital step in having television that is accessible for the blind and visually impaired citizens.

Please do not let the Television and Cable companies take this right away.

Sincerely,

Robert Fling



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List A B C D E

November 7, 2000

Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

NOV 21 2000

Dear MS. Salas:

My name is Bob Hachey and my address is 22 Grant Street Waltham, Ma 02453-4202. I am writing to you today for two reasons. Firstly I would like to thank you and the FCC commissioners for the ruling of July 21 concerning video description (Docket No. 99-339), Secondly, I strongly urge the FCC to reject the petitions for re-consideration filed by those opposed to mandatory video description.

As a totally blind person, I have enjoyed the benefits of video description. When I watch described movies with my wife, we both get more out of them. When we watch non-described movies and other television programs, I find myself asking her what happened. When she tells me, we both miss some of the event. If this event is on tape, I find myself hitting the pause button so she can tell me what's going on; I also rewind the tape so that we can find out what we missed while she was describing. If the event is not on tape, then we missed out on part of it. I especially enjoyed Titanic with video description. Video description gives me total access to movies and other television programming. Thus, I was very pleased with the FCC ruling which requires major television networks to begin providing video description in 2002.

I fervently hope that the FCC will reject the appeals to this ruling. Without video description, blind and visually impaired persons will not have equal access to television and movies. Moreover, the petitioners have not produced any new evidence as to why video description should not be required. They have trotted out the same tired arguments which the FCC rejected when making the ruling. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Bob Hachey



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1587 38th Avenue
San Francisco, California
November 9, 2000

Mafalie Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street., SW
Washington, DC 20554
Document No. 99-339

To the Members of the FCC:

Thank you, Commissioners, for your sensitivity to the needs of blind and visually impaired persons as shown in your vote last July to require, by April, 2002, some audio-described programs on television. I know that taking this position was a proof of courage, since businesses are rarely willing to extend themselves in this direction.

I write "in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description." It is my understanding that such reconsiderations are appropriate only when new evidence is to be put forward--evidence which might affect the original decision reached by the FCC Commissioners. It is also my understanding that the petitioners have not advanced any information of this kind. My hope, therefore, is that their effort to interfere with audio description for blind and visually impaired persons will be defeated.

We speak a lot these days about families sharing in activities. The blind individual sitting in the living room with his/her family has two options: He either annoys the rest of the family by incessant questions about what the screen is showing, or he gives up, leaves the room, and goes off by himself to read a braille book or one on tape. He has no part in the discussion or laughter coming from the living room. Such behavior should not be forced upon him just because the television, cable, and movie industries do not wish to make the effort to accommodate his needs.

I am confident that you will give this matter serious thought.

Sincerely,

Winifred Downing

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35 Cromeset Rd.
Wareham, MA 02571
508 295 3621
Nove. 8, 2000

Ms. Magalie S lease, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

Re: 99-339,

Dear Ms. Magalie:

My heart is really very heavy today. Not because of any
election results, but because your FCC is considering withdrawing your wond-
erful decision that would enable me to totally enjoy my
television programs. When you heard on All Things consid-
ered last Jyly that you folks decided that DVS would be
starting for me and other visually impaired people, I was
truly thrilled; I began longing for that great day in
a couple of years when the change would be required. Now,
though, I learn that such a requirement is up for recon-
sideration!

Please, please do all you can to enable us to have vidio
descriptions! There are so many, many spots in plays and
travel shows that you cannot figure out by just ehd dia-
logue; a verbal description is esstential in order to
get the full meaning of the programs. On the rather rare occasions when I have witnessed a DVS
film, I not only have enjoyed it myself but I have been
able to discuss the show wi
with my sight4ed friends and family, soudning as though
I really knew what I was talking about.

Sincerely yours,

--Jeanne F. Neale

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Michael K. Walsh
107 Orion Court
Cary, North Carolina 27513

Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

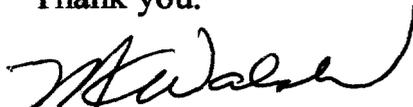
Re: Docket No. 99-339

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am submitting this letter in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description. I was very pleased with the Commissioners of the FTC for their courageous vote requiring the networks to begin providing video description for people who are blind and visually impaired. In fact was eagerly looking forward to April 2002, when television shows could be enjoyed by the visually impaired due to the video descriptions.

Therefore, I urge the Commissioners, since no new information has been presented, to reaffirm the value of video descriptions and to sustain the position they took in July.

Thank you.


Michael K. Walsh

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List A B C D E

Brian Lewis
629 Bashford Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27606

Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Docket No. 99-339

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am submitting this letter in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description. I was very pleased with the Commissioners of the FTC for their courageous vote requiring the networks to begin providing video description for people who are blind and visually impaired. In fact was eagerly looking forward to April 2002, when television shows could be enjoyed by the visually impaired due to the video descriptions.

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Thank you.


Brian Lewis

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Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

November 3, 2000

Dear Ms. Salas,

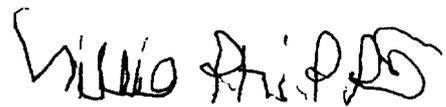
This is regarding Docket # 99-339.

This letter is in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Commissioners of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the networks to begin providing video description service for people who are blind or visually impaired.

It is very important for anyone who cannot see the screen to have an alternate means for knowing what's happening on the television. Words cannot express how much video description means to me. It has allowed me to enjoy movies and plays with family and friends and given me a real feeling of independence. I have been looking forward to turning on my television in April, 2002, to enjoy shows with family and friends and to use the video description to help understand the visual aspects of the programming.

I want to be able to enjoy the same programming as others.

Sincerely, 

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Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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November 3, 2000

Dear Ms. Salas,

NOV 21 2000

FCC

This is regarding Docket # 99-339.

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I want to be able to enjoy the same programming as others.

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List A B C D E

Sincerely,

Branis A. Wrzesinski (WRZESINSKI)
1891 E. Kelt Rd
Ac. Well, MI 48820
(DEWITT), MI

Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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November 3, 2000

NOV 21 2000
FCC

Dear Ms. Salas,

This is regarding Docket # 99-339.

This letter is in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description.

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I want to be able to enjoy the same programming as others.

Sincerely,



MCB Training Center
1541 Oakland Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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LWABCDE

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Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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November 3, 2000

NOV 21 2000

Dear Ms. Salas,

FCC MAIL ROOM

This is regarding Docket # 99-339.

This letter is in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Commissioners of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the networks to begin providing video description service for people who are blind or visually impaired.

I am writing this letter in consideration of and for people who are blind or visually impaired. It is very important for anyone who cannot see the screen to have an alternate means for knowing what's happening on the television. It allows people who are blind or visually impaired to enjoy television with family and friends and give them a real feeling of independence.

The FCC needs to do the right thing by requiring video description to be on television.

Sincerely,

Diann E. Hoyt

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Diann E. Hoyt
PO Box 166
Jones, MI 49061



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Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554



Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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Attn: Ms. Magalie Salas, Secretary

Re: Docket 99-339

We as a group of visually impaired and blind clients of the Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind of Pasco & Hernando County, Florida, commend the efforts of the commissions of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the TV networks to provide an essential information service to the blind and visually impaired.

All of the people in our group can see little or no picture at all on our TV screens. We do need an option of a video description to understand what is happening on our TV screens, not unlike the captions for the hearing impaired. Before TV, we had radio. We would be able to listen to a story that was quite descriptive and visualize exactly what was happening.

We are writing to support video descriptions for TV and in opposition to the petitions filed to rescind your order (Docket 99-339).

Sincerely, *Alfreda Korona*

Alfreda Korona
12125 Spartan Way Apt 101
Bayonet Point FL 34667-3141

Ms. Magalie Salas *Q*
Secretary
FCC

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Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Attn: Ms. Magalie Salas, Secretary

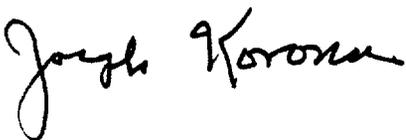
Re: Docket 99-339

We as a group of visually impaired and blind clients of the Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind of Pasco & Hernando County, Florida, commend the efforts of the commissions of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the TV networks to provide an essential information service to the blind and visually impaired.

All of the people in our group can see little or no picture at all on our TV screens. We do need an option of a video description to understand what is happening on our TV screens, not unlike the captions for the hearing impaired. Before TV, we had radio. We would be able to listen to a story that was quite descriptive and visualize exactly what was happening.

We are writing to support video descriptions for TV and in opposition to the petitions filed to rescind your order (Docket 99-339).

Sincerely,



Joseph Korona
12125 Spartan Way Apt 101
Bayonet Point FL 34667-3141

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**Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554**

Attn: Ms. Magalie Salas, Secretary

Re: Docket 99-339

We as a group of visually impaired and blind clients of the Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind of Pasco & Hernando County, Florida, commend the efforts of the commissions of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the TV networks to provide an essential information service to the blind and visually impaired.

All of the people in our group can see little or no picture at all on our TV screens. We do need an option of a video description to understand what is happening on our TV screens, not unlike the captions for the hearing impaired. Before TV, we had radio. We would be able to listen to a story that was quite descriptive and visualize exactly what was happening.

We are writing to support video descriptions for TV and in opposition to the petitions filed to rescind your order (Docket 99-339).

Sincerely,

George Yachulic
Helen Yachulic

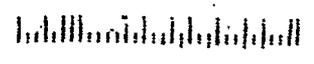
MAILED 0
DNAS 08E

 **George L. Yackulic**
1184 Chelsea Ln.
Holiday, FL 34691-5130



Federal Communications
Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, D.C.
20554

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NOVEMBER 16, 2000

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Magalie Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D. C., 20554

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Re: Docket No. 99-339

Dear Commissioners:

I wish to thank the Commissioners of the FCC for their courageous vote, requiring the networks to begin providing essential information regarding video description for television programming in the future.

This service is much needed for those of us who are blind and visually impaired. We who cannot see the screen are virtually deprived of knowing much of the significant parts of a drama or current news item appearing on our TV sets. Needless to say, such deprivation interferes with our full awareness of significant information.

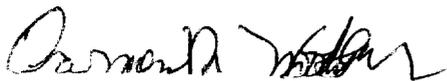
I was fortunate to experience two video descriptions by attending two motion pictures (Titanic and Star Wars) each with voice overlay. The description of action parts and silent moments during these films helped to complete my awareness of the story line.

How fortunate are the deaf to have closed caption TV!

Why cannot the blind and visually impaired also have the good fortune of fuller information through video description right in their own homes. To be provided with as full an amount of information, both audio and visual will very much enrich our TV experience.

Thank you for your concern and cooperation.

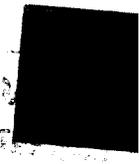
Very truly yours,



Carmen M. Woodyear



Carmen M. Woodyear
3405 Vis Dolce # 117B
Marina Del Rey CA 90292



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TW-13204

Magalie Salas, Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Pearl M. McMichael
815 Route 68
New Brighton, Pa 15066-4005

FCC MAIL ROOM

To Magalie Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

In support and appreciation for the July 21st ruling which will provide descriptive video service on television for blind and visually impaired persons.

docket no. 99-339.

I am a ninety year old totally blind person who was thrilled by this July ruling. I will have a supreme privilege to know what is going on during those silent moments when I set and wonder what is happening. I love alone and am a professional person who worked for forty years in the blindess field and I know very well what this ruling means to all of us. Please do not reconsider changing this ruling.

When my husband was living he was an amateur radio operator and served our country well during many disasters. I well know how your commission has always been supportive of the needs of everyone.

I am sorry that I am not a good typist, but my lessons on the computer have not been completed.

Most gratefully,
Pearl M. McMichael

.....

Pearl M. McMichael

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99-339

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Agalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street Sw
Washington Dc 20554

To whom it may concern,

We are a group of retired, Vissually Impaired people who are in the process of slowly loosing sight due to Macular Degeneration. We get together on a monthly basis to learn coping skills. We were recently delighted to learn of the FCC's decision to have Audio Vidio Description for TV broadcasting. We have been elated to know that in April of 2002 we to could enjoy normal television without the aid of family and friends to describe the portions we could not see.

We now understand that some petitions to reconsider this FCC ruling have been mailed. We strongly urge that you consider this letter a Official Filing. Please do not reconsider the ruling on docket No. 99-339. We ask that you consider this letter as a direct opposition to petitionersfor reconsideration of the reported order on vidio description.

We want to express our sincere appreciation to the commissioners of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the Networks to begin providing this essential information service to people who are Blind and visually impaired. This is an important step forward, please lets not step back.

The Vip Support Group of Hot Springs Village

Patricia D. Hoega
Walter Hoeger
Martha Ramsey
Walter D. Kimmel
Dr & Mrs A.H. Brodhead

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MP GROUP
1st AULEY CTR
HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE, AR.

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AGALIE SALAS, SECRETARY
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION
445 17th STREET SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554



James H. Lovell
13251 Royal George Avenue
Odessa, Florida 33556
(813) 792-8366

November 8, 2000

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LIST A B C D E

Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Salas,

RE: Docket No. 99-339

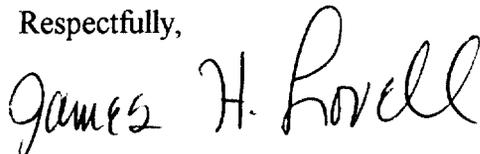
I would like to express my appreciation to the Commissioners of the FCC for their courageous vote requiring the networks to provide video description of television programming for the blind by April 2002. I can only say HALLELUJAH and I support your decision.

I am a 49 year-old legally blind individual (I have retinitis pigmintosa) who constantly asks family members for descriptions during television programming. It can be quite annoying to everyone but necessary for me to grasp the content of the programming I try to view. Your ruling hopefully will allow me to attend theatre movies with my spouse. This is something I will be able to do (that I have not been able to do for 15 years) when the descriptive video services are provided in the near future. I am very excited.

I submit this correspondence in "opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description." How can the television, movie and cable industries possibly ask for reconsideration when they have not provided any new information that was not already known at the time the FCC reached its decision and issued its ruling. Please do not reconsider. This is a service that has been a long time coming for visually impaired and blind individuals. It seems that more has been done for the various foreign populations by providing their language via closed caption in our country than is done for American born citizens who are visually impaired. PLEASE STAND BY YOUR RULING. This is a vital step in providing television, cable and movies in an accessible format for the blind and visually impaired citizens of the United States.

Best regards.

Respectfully,



James H. Lovell

Lyn J. Walsh
107 Orion Court
Cary, North Carolina 27513

Magalie Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Docket No. 99-339

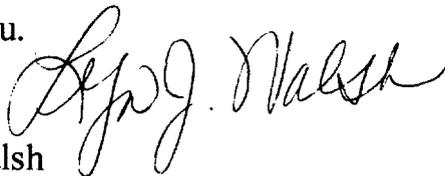
Dear Ms. Salas:

I am submitting this letter in opposition to petitioners for reconsideration of the reported order on video description. I was very pleased with the Commissioners of the FTC for their courageous vote requiring the networks to begin providing video description for people who are blind and visually impaired. In fact, I was eagerly looking forward to April 2002, when television shows could be enjoyed by the visually impaired due to the video descriptions.

Therefore, I urge the Commissioners, since no new information has been presented, to reaffirm the value of video descriptions and to sustain the position they took in July.

Thank you.

Lyn J. Walsh



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