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July 10, 2001

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

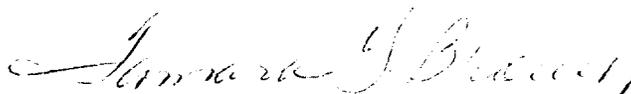
Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communications; Docket 00-32 and
Docket 99-168

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs ("MCC"), this is to notify the Office of Secretary that Harold L. Hurtt, Chief of Police for Phoenix, Arizona, Mark A. Kroeker, Chief of Police for Portland, Oregon, John C. Gallagher, Commissioner for Police Department of Suffolk County, New York and Harlin R. McEwen, MCC Communications Advisor met today, July 10, 2001, with Chairman Powell and Commissioner Tristani and their staff members regarding the above-referenced dockets.

The positions MCC advocated during these meetings are summarized in the enclosure. Should the Commission have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned or Robert M. Gurs at (202) 783-8400.

Sincerely,



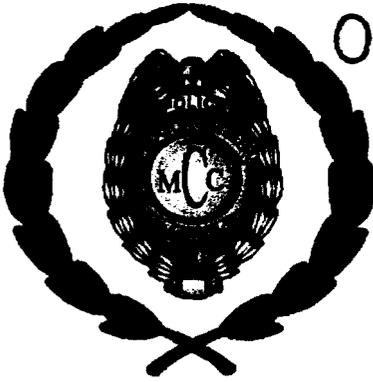
Tamara Y. Brown

Enclosure

cc: Office of the Chairman
Office of Commissioner Tristani

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Federal Communications Commission

July 10, 2001

Chief Harold L. Hurtt, Police Dept., Phoenix, AZ..... (602) 262-6747
Chief Mark A. Kroeker, Police Dept., Portland, OR (503) 823-0000
Commissioner John C. Gallagher, Police Dept., Suffolk Co. NY (631) 852-6077
Chief (Ret) Harlin R. McEwen, MCC Communications Advisor..... (607) 257-1522

MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS

800 MHz Interference

- Explosive growth of commercial wireless systems in 800 MHz bands is creating dangerous interference to public safety radio systems. Problem occurs in both "interleaved" 806 MHz band and in the National Public Safety Plan channels at 821 MHz.
- Interference occurs, for example, when a police officer with a portable radio is near the fringe of its operating area, but very close to an adjacent band commercial cell site.
- The Commission should continue to pressure commercial carriers to address interference problems, and to take steps to avoid problems in the future.

700 MHz Potential Interference (Docket 99-168)

- The new 700 MHz public safety band faces the potential for the same type of interference.
- Guard bands help, but do not solve the problem.
- FCC erred when it allowed high power base stations to operate in 777-792 MHz portion of the band (which is close to public safety allocation). The FCC should thus grant the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) Petition for Reconsideration, which relies on studies conducted by the Telecommunications Industry Association.

4.9 GHz Allocation (Docket 00-32)

- The 700 MHz band, even without interference problems and incumbent TV channel 60-69 broadcasters, does not satisfy all public safety spectrum requirements. The 700 MHz band is most appropriate for voice and wide area data, but lacks capacity for broadband operation.
- Additional public safety spectrum required for high speed broadband transmissions of video and data.
- Examples include personal area networks linking devices used by police officers and firefighters in the field, incident command operations, and data transfers at "hot spots."
- Some of the public safety needs can be addressed in the 4.9 GHz band now under consideration.