

ORIGINAL

BUREAU COUNTY ENHANCED 9-1-1

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

August 1, 2001

Mr. Tom Sugrue, Chief
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Sugrue:

As advocates for the rapid deployment of enhanced 9-1-1 services, we are writing to emphasize the critical importance of bringing this life-saving technology to the American people as soon as possible. We urge you to continue to make E9-1-1 a high priority at the Federal Communications Commission and to hold firm to the deployment schedule the FCC has established.

We recognize that implementing wireless E9-1-1 is not a simple task and that it requires substantial resources by all parties. Bringing enhanced emergency services to the nation will also require the coordinated efforts of the industry, public safety, and the FCC. We applaud your commitment to this important technology and appreciate your assurances that the FCC is working with the parties to resolve problems for speedy deployment while at the same time remaining committed to enforcing its rules.

Having said the above, however, we are concerned that the coordination of effort may be hindered by use of the FCC's waiver process as a delay tactic rather than for legitimate, intended purposes. We're even more concerned of the potential effect waivers may have on the willingness of other industry participants to expend the necessary resources for timely deployment.

The basic wireless E9-1-1 requirements have been in place since 1996. Carriers knew then that they would have to provide Phase I and Phase II capability. Many of the changes made by the FCC since 1996 were made at the carriers' requests and provided greater flexibility as to how and when to implement E9-1-1.

In our view, there has been adequate time for wireless carriers and manufacturers to take the necessary steps which would allow them to meet these long established deadlines. Any further delays in E9-1-1 deployment may result in the loss of life.

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Accordingly, any decision on requests for further delay should take into consideration one overriding factor, bringing this life-saving technology to market at the earliest possible date.

We appreciate your work to accomplish this mission, and we urge you to continue working to bring complete deployment of Phase II location information to the nation as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas E. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "M".

Douglas E. Miller, ENP
Enhanced 9-1-1 Coordinator
Bureau County Enhanced 9-1-1