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April 24, 2002

BY HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12 Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

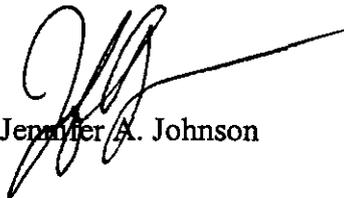
Re: CS-Docket Nos. 98-120 & 00-96, MM Docket No. 00-39

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Attached please find six copies of a letter from Jonathan Blake and Jennifer Johnson to the Media Legal Advisors for Chairman Powell and the other Commissioners. While the letter does not directly address the above referenced "permit-but-disclose" proceedings, it refers to an *ex parte* letter previously submitted to the dockets of these proceedings. Therefore, two copies of the letter are being submitted for each docket, in accordance with Section 1.1206(b)(1) of the Commission's Rules.

Any questions regarding this matter may be directed to the undersigned.

Sincerely,


Jennifer A. Johnson

Enclosures

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Re: April 18 Letter from Broadcasters on DTV Plan

Dear Susan, Catherine, Stacy and Susanna:

On April 18, 2002, eight of our broadcast clients filed a letter to Chairman Powell commending him on his voluntary Digital Television Plan, which calls upon all of the essential industries to participate in the conversion of the country's broadcast television service to digital. The letter also noted that much remains to be done, both at the Commission and by the affected industries, to achieve a successful digital transition. On that point, the signatories stated that they were "eager to develop and distribute the types of 'value added' DTV programming and services referenced in [the Chairman's] plan."

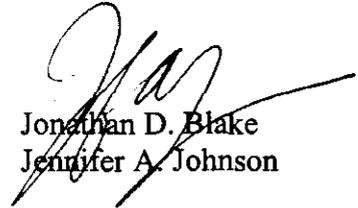
We have heard of concerns that the letter did not address the Chairman's proposal that "DTV affiliates of the top four networks in markets 1-100 obtain and install the equipment necessary to pass through network DTV without degradation of signal quality (e.g., pass through HD programming, if that is what the network provides)." In fact, all of the signatories to the letter have designed their DTV facilities to include this capability. Those stations affiliated with the big four networks, as well as the noncommercial stations, now licensed to these broadcasters in the top 100 markets either already are passing through the available network DTV programming – including any HDTV programming – without degradation or will have this capability by January 1, 2003 or as soon thereafter as they commence DTV operations.

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If you have any questions, or would like further information on this issue, we would be happy to provide it.

Sincerely,



Jonathan D. Blake
Jennifer A. Johnson

cc: Kenneth Ferree
Robert Ratchliffe
Rick Chessen
Marlene H. Dortch