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January 13, 2003

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

Re: Ex Parte Notice - MM Docket No. 02-277

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 10, 2003, the following leaders of the advertising industry and the creative community briefed Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy and the Commissioner's Mass Media Legal Advisor Stacy Robinson regarding the comments filed by the Coalition for Program Diversity in the above noted docket: Jon Mandel, Co-CEO and Chief Negotiating Officer, MediaCom; Steve Mosko, President, Sony Pictures Television; Kathy Garmezy, Director, Government Affairs, DGA; Pamm Fair, Deputy National Executive Director, Planning & External Affairs, SAG; John Russum, Executive Director, AFTRA; Tom Werner, Executive Producer & Founder, The Carsey-Werner-Mandabach Co.; Marcy Carsey, Executive Producer & Founder, The Carsey-Werner-Mandabach Co.; Caryn Mandabach, Executive Producer, The Carsey-Werner-Mandabach Co.; Marian Rees, Executive Producer, Marian Rees Associates, Inc.; David Goldhill, President & Chief Operating Officer, Universal Television; David Kissinger, President, Universal Television Productions; and David Karnes, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, Universal Television Productions. Counsel representing the Coalition for Program Diversity included Kenneth Ziffren of the Law

Offices of Ziffren, Brittenham, Branca, Fischer, Gilbert-Lurie & Stiffelman, LLP, and Michael Gardner of the Law Offices of Michael R. Gardner, PC.

Subjects discussed during these briefings included: the current status of the narrow prime time television programming marketplace; the advertising marketplace for prime time television programming; the 25% Independent Producer Rule proposed by the Coalition for Program Diversity; the judicial sustainability of the 25% Independent Producer Rule; and the public interest benefits from the Commission's adoption of the 25% Independent Producer Rule.

As required by section 1.1206(b), two copies of this letter are being submitted for inclusion in the above referenced docket.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Gardner
Counsel for the Coalition for Program Diversity

Kenneth Ziffren
Counsel for the Coalition for Program Diversity

cc: Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Stacy Robinson