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**DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON, PLLC**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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**M. ANN SWANSON**  
DIRECT DIAL 202-776-2534  
aswanson@dla.com

WASHINGTON, D.C.

1200 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, N.W. - SUITE 800 - WASHINGTON, DC 20036-6802  
TELEPHONE 202-776-2000 - FACSIMILE 202-776-2222

ONE RAVINIA DRIVE - SUITE 1600  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30346-2108  
TELEPHONE 770-901-8800  
FACSIMILE 770-901-8874

**ORIGINAL**

February 12, 2003

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

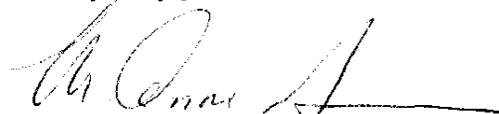
**Re: Notification of Ex Parte Communication**  
**MB Docket Nos. 02-277, 01-235, 96-197, 01-317, and 00-244**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules, that on February 11, 2003, George Mahoney, General Counsel and Secretary of Media General, Inc., and I met with Dr. Simon Wilkie, Chief Economist of the FCC, to discuss Media General, Inc.'s interest in repeal of the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule in all markets. The discussion addressed Media General's reasons for repeal of the rule; the public interest benefits, such as the delivery of more and better local news, that result from convergence of newspaper and broadcast properties; Media General's experience that there is no "real world" connection between diversity of ownership and viewpoint; Media General's concern over any FCC attempt to craft a single rule to address ownership of various types of media outlets; and economic studies that have been lodged in this proceeding.

As required by section 1.1206(b), two copies of this letter are being submitted for each of the above-referenced dockets.

Very truly yours,



M. Ann Swanson

cc: Dr. Simon Wilkie