

From: Rob Lowe
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2003 12:27 AM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

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MAR 05 2003

Rob Lowe (rlowe540@hotmail.com) writes:

February 24, 2003

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

I am sending you an appeal to do something historic and unprecedented, in these unprecedented times. As an illegal unelected President prepares to take us into a second unwanted war, Disney, GE, Viacom, NewsCorp and AOLTimeWarner have completely forsaken their responsibility to provide the American people objective untainted news. Instead, they have become war-mongering conduits of propaganda and government manipulation.

I am asking you to remember that 8 million people died in Southeast Asia because the media marginalized and ignored those of us opposing the war. I am asking you to remember that Freedom of the Press and the Public Airwaves having a meaning beyond corporate profits, favorable regulatory oversight and the oligopolies created by the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Each of the major networks, including PBS (with the exception of Bill Moyers NOW) have crossed the line of censorship, media manipulation and propagandizing in the hope of keeping opinions at variance with the governments message off the air.

I am asking you to make a public announcement calling for the immediate temporary suspension of the broadcast licenses of Disney, GE, Viacom, NewsCorp and AOL TimeWarner until a complete investigation of their broadcast practices is done. And if in fact, they are found to be outlets for manipulating public opinion and have excluded, intentionally or not, non-government spokesmen opposing the Bush regime and substantive opinions not supporting war, that their licenses be revoked and a permanent ban on their use of the Public Airwaves be issued

I ask you to do this for an America that is quickly disappearing. An America that is in danger. An America that is almost completely hypnotized and media monotonized.

Regards

R Lowe

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 154.5.97.163
Remote IP address: 154.5.97.163

From: kristiewang@yahoo.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Feb 25.2003 1:38 PM
Subject: Protect TV for kids

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein.

As a mother of a young child, I am writing to urge the FCC to consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Kristie Wang
5096 South Forestdale Circle
Dublin, California 94568

cc.
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Richard Pombo

From: John Rook
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Feb 25.2003 4:22 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

John Rook (JHRook@earthlink.net) writes:

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Business

FCC plans for media worrisome
 Loosening of ownership rules merits scrutiny, Bert Caldwell says

Bert Caldwell
 The Spokesman-Review

Fresh from a fractious battle over telecommunications issues, the Federal Communications Commission now tackles media ownership.

Cue the laugh track, please

The commission has proposed rule changes that would lift caps on network ownership of affiliates and ownership of more than one of four top stations in a market, and end a ban on the ownership of more than one network.

Cross-ownership of a newspaper and TV station in the same market would also be permitted. That is not an issue in Spokane, where ownership of The Spokesman-Review and KHQ-TV by Cowles Publishing Co. is grandfathered under existing rules.

A limit of owning no more than eight radio stations in a single market may also be eliminated. And therein lies a caution for those who equate deregulation with diversity.

Prior to 1996, no one entity could own more than three radio stations in a market. There were several owners of major Spokane-area AM and FM outlets.

Since the Telecommunications Act of 1996 raised the ownership cap to eight, consolidation has snowballed. Clear Channel, for example, in 1995 owned 40 stations nationwide that captured 1.3 percent of the radio industry's \$10.5 billion in revenues. The company now controls more than 1,200 stations that, in 2001, inhaled 20.2 percent of \$16.2 billion in revenues.

In Spokane, Clear Channel owns six stations. Morgan Murphy owns seven, as does Citadel. Of the 23 stations measured by Arbitron then, these three own 20.

Concentration happens. Few communities have competing daily newspapers. Chains like Knight Ridder and Gannett own dozens. Many times, consolidating resources is the only way to maintain a diversity of products in a market, a point stressed by those who defend radio as it is today.

But diversity of what? Clear Channel has become the poster child for those fighting the new FCC proposals because of statements like this from company founder Lowry Mays:

"We're not in the business of providing news and information. We're not in the business of providing well-researched music. We're simply in the business of selling our customers' products."

Clear Channel has also moved into ownership of advertising agencies that book air time, and concert

halls. The Eagles' Don Henley complained to a U.S. Senate committee recently that music groups feel pressured to book those venues or risk losing radio play.

Mind you, the airwaves have always been considered a public resource. Public service -- news, announcements of community events, etc. -- was required of broadcasters that used them. That obligation has gradually been compromised.

Although the FCC may address radio ownership issues, changes for television are the major thrust. The industry argues that limits on the national audience share a cable or broadcast owner can control are antiquated given the exploding number of alternative outlets for news and entertainment.

Consumer advocates point to the power already wielded by media behemoths like Viacom, Walt Disney Co. and News Corp., which own networks, cable systems, production studios, and newspapers.

Commissioner Michael Cops warns that once the FCC lowers barriers to consolidation, turning back will be difficult. Witness the struggles at AOL Time Warner.

Cops has announced plans to hold a public hearing on the FCC plan in Seattle sometime next month. One of two Democrats on the commission, Cops has been trying to outflank Chairman Michael Powell, who last week suffered an embarrassing loss in a showdown over regulation of local telephone networks.

These are high-stakes decisions. with billions of dollars on the table. Sometimes the public interest gets lost. In the case of the proposed DirecTV-Dish Network merger, in November the commission said the deal would not serve the best interests of cable and satellite television subscribers.

That was a simple decision compared with those before the commission now

Many outlets do not necessarily guarantee many voices in the discussion of national affairs if only a few hands hold the microphone or the camera.

Business columnist Bert Caldwell can be reached at (509) 459-5450 or by e-mail at bertc@spokesman.com

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: 66.82.9.15
Remote IP address: 66.82.9.15

From: mrsdoos@hotmail.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2003 5:14 PM
Subject: STOP DEREGULATION OF OUR MEDIA!!

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

The FCC must consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules

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The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely

Kerri Diener
2660 Grove Way
Castro Valley, California 94546

cc
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Barbara Lee

From: mrsdoos@hotmail.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2003 5:14 PM
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Office of the Secretary

FCC Commissioner Michael J Copps

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Sincerely,

Kerri Diener
2660 Grove Way
Castro Valley, California 94546

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Barbara Lee

From: emisenaar@comcast.net
To: Michael Copps
Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2003 7:32 PM
Subject: Protect Children's Television!

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

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Sincerely,

Erin Misenaar
735 Hillcrest Circle #105
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326

cc:
Senator Carl Levin
Representative Joe Knollenberg
Senator Debbie Stabenow

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735 Hillcrest Circle #105
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326

cc:
Senator Carl Levin
Representative Joe Knollenberg
Senator Debbie Stabenow

From: Christine Evans
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 5:45 AM
Subject: Keep media free and competitive

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

Dear Commissioner:

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

One of the basic elements which help to keep the American media at least partially free and independent is the set of FCC regulations restricting consolidation and monopolies.

In the 2002 Biennial Review, the FCC appears to be planning to roll back many of these protective regulations: the Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule, the National Broadcast Ownership Cap, the Local Radio Ownership Rule, the Duopoly Rule and the Dual Network Rule.

Relaxation or abandonment of the preceding rules will result in the purchase of local and independent newspapers and radio and television stations by large media giants. The cost to the American People and Democracy will be far too high if local news, reportorial freedom and access to a true variety of legitimate views are further compromised.

Commissioner, I urge you to make sure the FCC does not relax or drop these vital regulatory rules.

Sincerely

Christine B. Evans
1550 Gravenstein Highway
Sebastopol, CA 95472

From: Christine Evans
To: Michael Copps
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 5:46 AM
Subject: Keep media free and competitive

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

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Office of the Secretary

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Commissioner, I urge you to make sure the FCC does not relax or drop these vital regulatory rules.

Sincerely,

Christine B. Evans
1550 Gravenstein Highway
Sebastopol, CA 95472

From: Sarah Grisham
To: Mike Powell
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 9:10 AM
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

Sarah Grisham
304 W. 75th St., #4E
New York, NY 10023-1609

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

February 26, 2003

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell
445 12th St SW
Rm 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet,

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society. Ownership consolidation is squeezing out what little diversity remains in the marketplace.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review any further regulations. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources

Sincerely,

Sarah Grisham

From: Vivian Tenney
To: Michael Copps
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 11:03 AM
Subject: Democracy

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I am very very concerned about the state of broadcast media in the US. I now have to rely on the internet to find out what is really happening in this world. And, every time anything is deregulated, the result **is**, in the end, two or three large, powerful companies who control everything in a virtual monopoly. What happens, then, to a democracy which depends on informed citizens?

Vivian Tenney
626 Morningside Dr.
Norman, Ok 73071

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To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 11:03 AM
Subject: Democracy

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Norman, Ok 73071

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: sarahgs@stanfordalumni.org
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Feb 26 2003 12:49 PM
Subject: Protect Children from Media Consolidation

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

As a young person concerned about democracy in the United States, I feel that it is critical that the public interest **be** considered in the upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

It is critically important for a functioning democracy to have diverse news sources in order for the public to make informed policy decisions. This is particularly critical with regard to children, who rely on adult voters to protect their special needs.

Furthermore, the FCC should consider how relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Children consume a huge amount of media each day, and are particularly vulnerable to commercialism. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Sarah Grossman-Swenson
300 Monterey Boulevard
Apartment 203
San Francisco, California 94131-3157

cc:

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Tom Lantos

From: sarahgs@stanfordalumni.org
To: Michael Copps
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 12:49 PM
Subject: Protect Children from Media Consolidation

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300 Monterey Boulevard
Apartment 203
San Francisco, California 94131-3157

cc:

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Tom Lantos

From: johnpauljones223 <johnpauljones223@yahoo.com>
To: Mike Powell
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 2:16 PM
Subject: Media diversity should be a top priority for the FCC.

To Michael Powell, FCC Chair
Federal Communications Commission

Media diversity should be a top priority for the FCC.

Media concentration cripples democracy

Please preserve and refrain from weakening the rule prohibiting cross ownership of newspapers and television stations in the same market.

Thank You

John Paul Jones
New York, NY

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: xspook@cuisp.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 4:39 PM
Subject: Deregulation of the News Media

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Copps:

Deregulation of the news Media weakens democracy. Please don't ease media ownership and concentration limitations.

Unlike other industries where deregulation has benefited the entire country by increasing competition and lowering consumer costs, deregulation of the media will only benefit large media bottomlines and damage America. fundamentally. Easing media ownership and concentration limitations to reduce corporate costs may help large companies, but the reduced competition will narrow the scope and breadth of the news given to the general population. With less information given, we may not be able to discern for ourselves just what the truth **is**. If the people are not sufficiently informed, how can we govern ourselves? Democracy will be in trouble.

Perhaps easing media ownership and concentration limits has already gone too far. Good journalistic indepth reporting is hard to find. Examples: I am finding it difficult to understand why so much of the world population hates us? Or, why our "friends" won't back us in our Iraq policy? Or, why there isn't more discussion of the war protest here at home? Or, why we are in lockstep with President Sharon of Israil when it seems a more evenhanded policy would be benifical in the Middle East?

All viewpoints are important. When I was a child my hometown had two small weekly newspapers. I asked my father (who worked for one of the papers as did my grandfather at the time) why our town needed two newspapers. His reply was that the other newspaper was a Republican newspaper and that the paper he worked for was a Democratic newspaper. Enough said.

I don't want a handful of media owners or chief executives of national or international media conglomerates telling me what the truth is. I want to figure it out on my own. I believe this is not only my right as a citizen but a duty to my Country to be informed. A strong democracy depends upon an informed citizenry, Therefore, Democracy depends upon a free and diverse media. In the Federal Agency where I served my Country for over 30 years there is an inscription in the foyer of the headquarters building. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free". Please protect our right and ability to discern the truth.

Sincerely, C. Randolph and Margaret A. Hyde 17694 Ryland Chapel Road
Rixeyville, VA 22737

CC: Mike and Beth May, Randy Hyde

From: xspook@cuisp.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 4:44 PM
Subject: Deregulation of the News Media

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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Sincerely, C. Randolph and Margaret A. Hyde 17694 Ryland Chapel Road
Rixeyville, VA 22737

From: Christine DeChicco
To: Mike Powell
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 4:57 PM
Subject: Media Conglomerates

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

The FCC of my country,

I teach media literacy to youth. I hear the impact it has on their daily thinking, feelings and behavior. Creating even larger media conglomerates will only make this worse. Our next generation of leaders needs to think outside the box. They need to be creative problems solvers. Media that send us the same messages over and over creates closed minds. This will happen.

Secondly, we are a democracy and don't allow monopolies. Monopolies are dangerous and go against our capitalistic society. Media monopolies are dangerous to our democratic society. You cannot think this is a good idea. It will either really limit the ideas expressed and limit the creative problem solving that a country as diverse as ours needs or turn people off completely to the media because they will no longer believe anything that they hear or see. Neither scenario is good for our country

Lastly, WHY? Why is there a need to allow mega media monopolies. Look around - these mega corps are a breeding ground for greed and corruption. I like to believe journalists would always tell the truth and nothing but the truth but when their job is on the line very few will be the maverick and take the risk of never being employed in journalism again. They'll chose to feed their family over making a statement contrary to what their corporate boss wants.

Let journalist do their job. Let democracy work. Give the youth of this country the best foundation they can have, don't retard them.

Christine DeChicco MSW, LSW
Director of Program Development
Strategies Against Violence Everywhere (**SAVE**)
92 Jefferson Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43215

From: rokarolla
To: Mike Powell
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 6:48 PM
Subject: FCC deregulation

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
since the secret

If you allow Clear Channel and Infiniti Broadcasting to monopolize radio and television, it will be making all those formats irrelevant. To all who cherish freedom of choice and have higher expectations than limited nationalized programming formats offered to **us** now, this represents a death blow to radio. I can get news and music that IS relevant on the internet. -Mike Dillon

RECEIVED

From: rokarolla
To: Michael **Copps**
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 6:54 PM
Subject: deregulation

MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

A vote to monopolize TV/Radio is a vote to make those formats (even more) irrelevant Enter broadband and freedom with it's precious ENDLESS CHOICE!!!

-Mike Dillon

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From: rokarolla
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 6:55 PM
Subject: deregulation

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

A vote to monopolize TV/Radio is a vote to make those formats (even more) irrelevant. Enter broadband and freedom with it's precious ENDLESS CHOICE!!!

-Mike Dillon

From: achevrol@sonic.net
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 7:27 PM
Subject: Protect Children's Television1

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Office of the Secretary

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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The FCC must consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules

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The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Amy Chevrolet
789 Lombardi Ct. Suite 205
Santa Rosa, California 95407

cc.

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Lynn Woolsey

From: achevrol@sonic.net
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Santa Rosa, California 95407

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Lynn Woolsey

From: John Rook
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Feb 26, 2003 8:42 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

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MAR - 5 2003

Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

John Rook (JHRook@earthlink.net) writes:

CC: Commissioner Adelstein

Congressman Walden,

I appreciate your speaking on behalf of radio broadcasters to the FCC. However, I also have some experience in the radio business in management at KABC-Los Angeles; KFI-Los Angeles; WLS-Chicago after beginning my career in 1957 in Newcastle, Wyoming. I also owned radio stations in the Tri-Cities of Washington and Spokane market.

You are correct that local radio should be given every opportunity to survive to serve the public. School closings, road conditions, news etc. Unfortunately, the weak FCC deregulation minded agency has allowed local radio to ignore these important ingredients and have for the most part simply echoed the programming of satellite radio. Today's group owners also own their own programming packages and have networked this to their stations nationwide. KFI in Los Angeles was 45 minutes late in reporting the recent major earthquake. Floods, storm conditions and other urgent news goes without being reported on many of these stations today.

The comments of Clear Channel's head, Lowry Mays tells it all when he told Fortune magazine (2-18-03): "If anyone said we were in the radio business, it wouldn't be someone from our company." says Mays, 67. "We're not in the business of providing news and information. We're not in the business of providing well-researched music. We're simply in the business of selling our customers products."

Read this again, Mr. Mays could care less about NEWS AND INFORMATION on 1200 radio stations he controls.

While I appreciate your comments to the FCC, it is most important that you are fully aware of what has taken place in radio to cut cost by owners who are not broadcasters, but bankers and lawyers today.

I recently heard Montana's Conrad Burns, another with broadcast credentials seemly unaware that many studio's today are totally unmanned by a live person. He was corrected by Jim Bohannon of Westwood One who said even his company is controlled by dollars...not sense, from today's broadcasters.

Our FCC must become more aware of what has been allowed to happen since so called deregulation has taken place. It's a little like dismissing our local police and state patrol on the roads. Absolute power corrupts! Sadly, our elected officials have paid more attention to the mail from lobby's than from the public.

John H Rook
 www.JohnRook.com
 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
 208-664-4014

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: 66.82.9.17
Remote IP address: 66.82.9.17