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May 12, 2003

Michael J. McCarthy
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Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Notice
MB Docket No. 02-277, MM Docket Nos. 01-235, 01-317 and 00-244

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Please associate this letter with the record in the above-referenced proceedings. The letter recounts a telephone conversation between Robert W. Decherd, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of Belo Corp., and Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein.

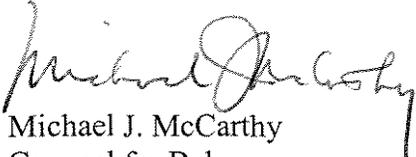
On May 8, 2003, in a previously-scheduled telephone call, Mr. Decherd followed up with Commissioner Adelstein concerning the April 16 letter Mr. Decherd sent to Chairman Powell, with copies to the other commissioners, detailing Belo's position on the policy issues contained in the above-referenced proceedings. In the call, Mr. Decherd discussed with Commissioner Adelstein Belo's rationale for the positions set forth in his April 16 letter and the pressing need for the proceeding to be concluded as scheduled on June 2.

After Mr. Decherd's discussion, Commissioner Adelstein asked him about the congressional letter, jointly-signed by several ranking House Democrats and sent a few hours previously to Chairman Powell, which posed a series of questions to the chairman about the ownership rulemaking and mentioned Belo's April 16 letter. Mr. Decherd reinforced with the commissioner that Belo, acting solely on its own initiative, (1) sent the letter to the chairman, (2) that it had no understanding with any other party, FCC or otherwise, prior to sending the letter outlining its position, and (3) that it was Belo's firm hope at the time that the television industry could unite behind the compromises embodied in Belo's letter concerning the television

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network cap, a possible new market test, and any limits on newspaper/television cross-ownership and television duopolies.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. McCarthy
Counsel for Belo

cc: Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein

MJM/VL