

October 14, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D C 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

David De Busk
3454 Crestridge Dr
Nashville, TN 37204
USA

Jeffrey Thomas
7321 S Camino Mirlo
Tucson, AZ 85747

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

As a broadcast television viewer and consumer of electronics and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am outraged that the FCC would consider a regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The broadcast flag is neither in my interest nor the public's interest. It will prevent me from watching digital broadcast television in the ways I currently enjoy analog broadcast television—for example, it will restrict my ability to move the video I have recorded for personal viewing from room-to-room and place-to-place.

The broadcast flag will also lock out my computer as a way to watch my favorite shows using my choice of software on a plane or train, or to send a television clip of a high school football game to family and friends.

Furthermore, if computers cannot freely receive digital television, how can I expect creative developers to discover new devices that enable me to use content in exciting ways I haven't even thought of? I value innovative devices like TiVo, ReplayTV and the Windows Media Center PC, which exist today because they were built to open standards using inexpensive, off-the-shelf computer parts.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital television equipment? A prettier picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and viewer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Thomas

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Angelina Mukn
720 W
Melbourne, FL 32940
USA

Patrick Helwig
335 N 8th St
603
Lincoln, NE 68508-1349

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C 20554

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I currently have a DVR and before that I had 2 VCRs and the DVR has really revolutionized the way I watch TV; no more hassling w/tapes or rewinding and fast-forwarding. TimeWarnerCable provides a very nice DVR that lets you record 2 shows at once while watching a 3rd show on the hard drive. I would hate not to be able to record shows anymore or not at full 1080i quality when their HDTV box comes out.

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Patrick Helwig

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Sincerely,

Dorothy Paunovich
181 Ashford Ct
Valparaiso, IN 46385
USA

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Michael Paunovich
885 Woodbridge
Melbourne, FL 32940
USA

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Washington, D C 20554

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Sincerely,

Galen Davis
257 Collins Street
San Francisco, CA 94118
USA

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Sincerely,

Michael Stickel
90 Quincy Shore Dr Apt 707
Quincy, MA 02171
USA

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Sincerely,

Erik Martin
603 Oak Tree Dr
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
USA

Mark W. Alexander
8208 Steeplechase Blvd
Orlando, FL 32818

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

Broadcast television uses a public resource — the airwaves. The FCC bears the burden of managing that public resource for the benefit of it's owners: The citizens of the United States.

The "broadcast flag" is not in the interest of the citizens. In fact, it gives license to media interests to control when and how information carried over the public airways are viewed. This gives the broadcast media industry far too much control over how citizens make use of the public airwaves.

Consider presidential debates. In an economy with a 24x7 workforce, only a minority of the citizenry may be able to view the debates at the time of the broadcast. With the advent of the VCR and court rulings validating a citizens right to "time shift" and "space shift" broadcast materials, those debates can be recorded for viewing at a time and place more convenient for voters.

The broadcast flag gives broadcasters the ability to prevent such use, effectively constraining the flow of important information to the American public.

The broadcast flag is NOT about reducing or eliminating copyright violations. The typical home recorder does not record broadcast shows for sale or distribution. They record broadcast shows for convenience and to preserve information. The courts have validated that this is a fair use of copyright materials. The broadcast industry is proposing the implementation of the broadcast flag to bypass what the courts have already ruled is fair use under copyright law in order to extend their bottom line. Consumers that have made personal use copies of broadcast shows have no need to go out and buy the series on DVD. THAT is what the broadcast industries do not like.

Not only have the courts validated home copying as a fair use activity, but the FCC rules currently require that all broadcast media be broadcast un-encrypted, or "in the clear". The broadcast flag is a way to bypass this

Brandon Light
11800 Green Hill Dr.
Hagerstown, MD 21742

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

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The broadcast flag will also lock out my computer as a way to watch my favorite shows using my choice of software on a plane or train, or to send a television clip of a high school football game to family and friends.

Furthermore, if computers cannot freely receive digital television, how can I expect creative developers to discover new devices that enable me to use content in exciting ways I haven't even thought of? I value innovative devices like TiVo, ReplayTV and the Windows Media Center PC, which exist today because they were built to open standards using inexpensive, off-the-shelf computer parts.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital television equipment? A prettier picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and viewer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Brandon Light

gary glaser
359s. kalamazoo mall
kalamazoo, mi

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Sincerely,

gary glaser

October 15, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
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Sincerely,

Kristopher Austin
700 NE 122nd ST #304
Oklahoma City, OK 73114
USA

Jennifer Bunner
924 East Dayton St., Apt 3
Madison, WI 53703

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445 12th Street, NW
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Jennifer Bunner

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Sincerely,

James Arcuri
10 Halcourt Dr
Plainview, NY 11803
USA

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Sincerely,

Michael Butrym
50 arbor drive
Howell, NJ 07731
USA

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Sincerely,

Christopher Curtis
12440 Alameda Trace Cir
#1422
Austin, TX 78727
USA

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Sincerely,

Dwayne Kimling
409 Globe Ave
Fort Worth, TX 76131
USA

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Washington, D C 20554

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Sincerely,

Kirk Masterson
4344 NE 63rd Ave
Portland, OR 97218
USA

10, 2003

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Jeffrey Laib
2832 Balsam Dr
Springfield, OH 45503
USA

John B. Thompson, Attorney
1172 South Dixie Highway, Suite 111
Coral Gables, Florida 33146-2750
Phone: 305-666-4366
Jackpeace@comcast.net

October 1, 2003

Maureen Del Duca, Chief
Investigations & Hearings Division
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

URGENT

Re: Advocacy of Killing Homosexuals on WQAM (560-AM, Miami, FL)

Dear Ms. Del Duca:

I filed a formal complaint in late August against the above radio station stemming from its airing of indecent material.

Today, this same station broadcast the following comments: "They're homos, and they should be shot." (8:03am). At 8:24 am: "All the gays everywhere hate me...If I say I want to kill all the homos I have a right to say it...I can say whatever I want. If you don't like it, I have a great lawyer. Call me."

You may recall that recently Michael Savage said on MSNBC that he hoped a gay who called might get aids and die. He was shortly thereafter dismissed, and rightly so.

The Miami Herald this week ran a lengthy article in which the management of WQAM explains that it has hired the idiot who is making the above comments in order to boost ratings through a shock radio format. Here's the link to the foolishly self-damning article: <http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/entertainment/6885037.htm>

This station, which was fined for indecency in 2000, has learned nothing from that fine. Their license is up for renewal in early 2004. I and others shall be putting together a rival petition to challenge their license renewal, and if the behavior that I relate herein continues, I have no doubt that we shall be successful.

Regards,

Copies: All FCC Commissioners



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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D C 20554

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Sincerely,

Scott Walker
102 Nan Drive
Hendersonville, TN 37075
USA

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Mark Rivera
104-66 126th Street
South Richmond Hill, NY 11419
USA

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

John Homer
482 N Pin Oak Pl
Apt 302
Longwood, FL 32779
USA

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Martin Paulsen
2 Pinetree Terrace
South Burlington, VT 05403
USA

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Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jon Adamowicz
99 Teaneck Road
Unit #213
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660
USA



October 10, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room 8-A302
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Meeting

Dear Commissioner Copps:

The Association of Public Television Stations ("APTS"), the Corporation for Public Broadcasting ("CPB") and the Public Broadcasting Service ("PBS") would like to meet with you and your staff to discuss digital must carry issues. We would like to schedule the meeting at your convenience, ideally October 30, October 31, or the week of November 3.

My assistant, Tammye Heatley will contact your office to schedule an appointment.

Sincerely,



Lonna M. Thompson
Vice President & General Counsel

cc: Jordan Goldstein

The Association of
Public Television Stations
666 Eleventh Street, NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20001
tel 202-654-4200 fax 202-654-4236
website www.pts.org



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Washington, DC 20001

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website www.pts.org

Mark W. Alexander
8208 Steeplechase Blvd
Orlando, FL 32818

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

Broadcast television uses a public resource — the airwaves. The FCC bears the burden of managing that public resource for the benefit of it's owners: The citizens of the United States.

The "broadcast flag" is not in the interest of the citizens. In fact, it gives license to media interests to control when and how information carried over the public airways are viewed. This gives the broadcast media industry far too much control over how citizens make use of the public airwaves.

Consider presidential debates. In an economy with a 24x7 workforce, only a minority of the citizenry may be able to view the debates at the time of the broadcast. With the advent of the VCR and court rulings validating a citizens right to "time shift" and "space shift" boradcast materials, those debates can be recorded for viewing at a time and place more convenient for voters.

The broadcast flag gives broadcasters the ability to prevent such use, effectively constraining the flow of important information to the American public.

The broadcast flag is NOT about reducing or eliminating copyright violations. The typical home recorder does not record broadcast shows for sale or distribution. They record broadcast shows for convenience and to preserve information. The courts have validated that this is a fair use of copyright materials. The broadcast industry is proposing the implementation of the broadcast flag to bypass what the courts have already ruled is fair use under copyright law in order to extend their bottom line. Consumers that have made personal use copies of broadcast shows have no need to go out and buy the series on DVD. THAT IS what the broadcast industries do not like.

Not only have the courts validated home copying as a fair use activity, but the FCC rules currently require that all broadcast media be broadcast un-encrypted, or "in the clear". The broadcast flag is a way to bypass this regulation. By broadcasting information in an un-encrypted form, but applying technology to prevent its reproduction or redisplay without the content producer's authorization by-passes the intent of the ban on encryption: That use of the public airways be available to the entire public without restriction.

If the broadcast industry is concerned about copyright infringement, they need to take the war to the real enemy: The professional copyright infinger. These are usually overseas operations that make infinging copies by the thousands for sale and distribution either before the media outlet makes their product available or at locations where the the outlet does not make it available. In order to fight that battle, the media industry must engage in both aggressive legal copyright protection and change their business and distribution model so their original product can compete more effectively. By making the original product available in a more timely manner and with broader distribution, the media industry could put the professional infringers out of business. No one will purchase an inferior copy, if a superior quality and authorized version is available at the same time and a comparable price.

Further, the application of the ban on encryption and mandated public availability only applies to BROADCAST content. If media producers wish to encrypt or otherwise "protect" their product, the answer is simple Do not broadcast it. The cable and satellite mediums consist of privately owned circuits where encryption or broadcast flags or any other technology the media industry wants can be deployed. The American citizens have no "right" to access content over private media.

They do, however, have that right for anything that travels over the airwaves. The broadcast spectrum is a public commons and "we the people" retain all rights over who uses them and how.

The recent FCC decisions regarding the broadcast industry is becoming an embarrassment to that agency. Its decision on media consolidation rules created such a public outcry that congress had to intervene to impose the will of the people. The FCC's decision to classify the cable industry as an "information provider" instead of a "telecommunications provider" has been overturned in court and, I believe, will also not withstand the public scrutiny should the agency pursue an appeal of that decision.

If the FCC endorses the use of the broadcast flag over the public airways, it will eventually become crystal clear to the American public just exactly who the FCC really represents. The broadcast flag is currently not well understood by the public, however, I assure you that when Mr. Average Joe Citizen tapes the Superbowl while he's at work, only to find out that the FCC has allowed the broadcasting network to prevent him from viewing it at a later time, he WILL be acutely aware of its impact and outraged at the decision that allowed it.

Save the agency the embarrassment of another public revolution against its decision and protect the broadcast medium from industry control. Deny the use of the broadcast flag or any technology that restricts public access to the PUBLIC airwaves.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Alexander

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