

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

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

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

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 equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Max Carlson
2407 26th Ave
San Francisco, CA 94116

Monday, October 27 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell,

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In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can record TV to watch later. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy. Recently, I got a new HDTV cable box from my local cable company, only to discover that it prohibits me from recording anything at all. I can no longer record programs that I want to watch later, despite my legal right to do so.

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 equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Melissa Dickinson
17919 Arbor Haven Dr.
Tampa, FL 33647

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Sincerely,

Erasmus Adame-Espinoza
14819 N. 133rd Drive
Surprise, AZ 85379

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television and will have far-reaching consequences beyond what is intended.

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Daniel Bell 1217 S. Quincy Tulsa, OK 74120

Sincerely,

Daniel Bell
1217 S. Quincy
Tulsa, OK 74120

October 27, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Powell,

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,

Carlos Ezquerro
2153 Monterey Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15215
USA

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell,

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

The success of the digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

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Sincerely,

Ian T. Flockhart
61 Gilson Road
Littleton, MA 01460

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Sincerely,

Sam Courtney
2004 diamond ridge cir
Carrollton, TX 75010

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Sincerely,

Timothy Abbott
34 Marshall St. Unit C
Somerville, MA 02145

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Sincerely,

Greg Richolson
1365 RidgeField Dr
Roswell, GA 30075

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Sincerely,

Erik Ch. Ohrnberger
1556 Crimson Drive
Troy, MI 48083

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Sincerely,

Michael Bishop
2021 San Jose Ave #3
Alameda, CA 94501

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Limiting or eliminating my ability to 'back up' copies of programming, to preserve my own personal investment in some media, is wrong. Hollywood wants us to have to buy new copies of everything every time we watch - just as we do with movie tickets... well, when I watch a program at home - broadcast or otherwise, I should have the ability to view it / time shift it, modify it, as long as I remain within the law and do not re-sell it as my own.

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 equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

John Stegenga
5156 Shotwell Street
Woodstock, GA 30188

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Sincerely,

Josh McDowell
930 Mt McKinley Dr
Grayson, GA 30017

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Sincerely,

Richard Bowen
7075 Fellers Lane
Sebastopol, CA 95472

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445 12th Street, NW
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Sincerely,

D Michael Shick
226 N Graham St
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Nancy Weiner
90 Banks Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

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Sincerely,

Stephen Kelly
26 Lakeview Terrace
Sussex, NJ 07461

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Sincerely,

Jay Frank
5341 Derry Ave., Suite S, Agoura Hills, Ca.
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

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Sincerely,

Kevin Miller
13061 Cedar Cove Place
New London, MO 63459

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In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

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 equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Blane Johnson
12818 Club Lane
Houston, TX 77099

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

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Todd Plants
8508 16th Street #711
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Ed Rayner
125 Second Place
Brooklyn, NY 11231



Steven R Gustafson
14132-34th PL So
Tukwila WA 98168

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Thousands of American consumers have already expressed their opposition to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag" I am writing to join them. As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer.

Adopting the broadcast flag will make the FCC stand for "Federal Computer Control" which is outside its proper role. It is not the FCC's place to effectively choose the software licenses or computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers.

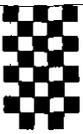
Additionally, adoption of the broadcast flag will harm innovation. Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkerers" who work to improve the software. Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace.

The broadcast flag rule advocated by the MPAA will ban open-source implementations of VSB and QAM modulators and demodulators, preventing open-source programmers from innovating in field of digital communications techniques used by television.

Most Americans assumed that when television became digital, viewers would be able to do more with television programming, not less. Without innovative new products and flexibility in the ways consumers are able to watch TV, consumers will be less inclined to invest in the equipment to view digital television. Therefore, the broadcast flag is likely to slow adoption of digital television in addition to making it illegal to watch digital television on a computer using open-source software. It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Steven R Gustafson



Barry Domfeld
2055 Harts Lane
Conshohocken, PA 19428

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

I am outraged that the FCC would consider a regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television. 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."

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.

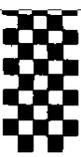
The broadcast flag will also lock out my computer as a way to watch my favorite shows using my choice of software on a plane or train, or to send a television clip of a high school football game to family and friends.

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,

Barry Domfeld



Steven Schladale
59 Princess Dr
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

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

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