



Minority Media & Telecommunications Council
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November 11, 2006

Hon. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

David Honig, Executive Director
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Dear Ms. Dortch:

RE: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication
MB Docket No. 06-121 (Media Ownership)

On November 8, 2006 at 2:30 PM, a meeting was held with Commissioner Robert McDowell and his Legal Advisor, Cristina Pauze. The participants were James Winston, Executive Director of the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters, Frank Montero, Executive Director of the Independent Spanish Broadcasters Association, and myself. We provided Commissioner McDowell with the Consumer Advisory Committee's "Further Recommendations Regarding 2006 Quadrennial Regulatory Review of the Commission's Media ownership Rules" (November 3, 2006) and made these points:

- (1) The paucity of minority ownership owes substantially to the Commission's history of licensing segregationists, its inattentiveness to race-neutral means by which it could have helped new entrants, its failure to eliminate market entry barriers, and its failure to take action to replace and build on policies such as the tax certificate that enjoyed broad industry support.
- (2) To address minority ownership, the Commission should adopt a comprehensive set of initiatives focused on access to opportunity, access to spectrum and access to capital.
- (3) The Commission's failure to consider MMTC's proposals in the 2002 media ownership proceeding, including the 14-year old incubator proposal emanating from a 1992 NPRM, is compounded today by the Commission's failure to issue a clean order, without extraneous matters, that responds to MMTC's August 23, 2006 motion to restart the proceeding.
- (4) The Commission should encourage merging companies to spin off properties to minorities rather than seeking waivers to allow continued ownership of these properties. Clear Channel Communications' successful dispositions of 40 stations to minorities in 2000, attendant to its merger with AMFM, demonstrates the wisdom of this approach.

Hon. Marlene Dortch

November 11, 2006

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Sincerely,

David Honig

David Honig
Executive Director

/dh

cc: Hon. Robert McDowell
Cristina Pauze, Esq.
James Winston, Esq.
Francisco Montero, Esq.