



GRAND LODGE
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CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

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JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Room TW-B204
Washington, D.C. 20554

31 October 2006

Re: WC Docket No. 06-74 and DA 06-2035

Dear Secretary Dortch:

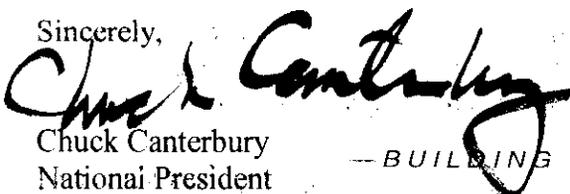
I am writing to advise the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) of the views of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) for the proposed merger between AT&T, Inc and the BellSouth Corporation, especially in light of the letter of 13 October that was submitted to the FCC on this proceeding.

The FOP is the nation's oldest and largest organization of fully sworn law enforcement officers, representing more than 324,000 members in over 2,100 lodges in every region of the country. As the preeminent voice of rank-and-file law enforcement officers, the FOP works closely with government, regulatory agencies, and our corporate partners to ensure that our members' concerns are heard and the unique needs of our profession are met and understood. The FOP has had positive interactions with both AT&T and BellSouth in the past on communications issues unique to law enforcement and we believe that continuing this relationship will demonstrate the value of public-private partnerships, especially in the realm of public safety.

In its letter of 13 October, AT&T proposes, as a condition of the merger's approval by the FCC, to donate \$1 million to "a section 501(c)(3) foundation or public entities for the purpose of promoting public safety." The FOP welcomes this generous offer and we believe that our National FOP Foundation would be an excellent partner for this and future joint efforts with AT&T and BellSouth in the years following the merger of these two companies.

The FOP supports the proposed merger, believing that public safety will benefit in the short- and long-term because of the strong relationship law enforcement has had with these two companies. We thank you for your consideration of our views on this matter. If we could be of any more assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco at the my Washington office.

Sincerely,


Chuck Canterbury
National President

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