



LAKE CHARLES BRANCH NAACP

P.O. Box 845 • Lake Charles, LA 70602 •

December 4, 2006

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Commissioner Robert McDowell

Re: WC Docket No. 06-74, Support for AT&T-BellSouth Merger

Dear FCC Chairman & Commissioners:

As the FCC impasse regarding the merger of AT&T and BellSouth persists, the Lake Charles Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) encourages you to pass this merger at your next meeting. We have continued to support the deal since it came under FCC review, but it is now time to act.

The NAACP consistently works to ensure equal opportunity for African Americans in all areas of life. While telecommunications and Internet access have become a vital part of life for millions, too many are left behind. It is this digital divide that impedes the progress of many African Americans, and slants the playing field to our disadvantage.

Should AT&T and BellSouth be permitted to merge, it would be a sign of movement in the right direction. With promises of broadband connection for more consumers – and connection at a much more affordable \$10 per month – Internet access can become a reality for African Americans across the country. We look to gain from this opportunity and begin to close the gap.

We can do so with your help. Let's allow the process to move forward.

Sincerely,

Wilbert J. Lewis

Wilbert Lewis, President
NAACP, Lake Charles Branch