



**OWENSBORO NAACP**  
**P.O. BOX 12, OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY 42302**  
**(270) 302-6814**

December 13, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein  
Commissioner Robert McDowell

Re: WC Docket No. 06-74

Dear Chairman & Commissioners,

As the FCC impasse regarding the merger of AT&T and BellSouth continues, the Owensboro Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) strongly encourage you to pass this unification at your next meeting. We have continued to support the pact since it came under FCC review, and insist that now is the time for you to act.

The NAACP consistently endeavors to ensure equal opportunity for all minorities especially in relation to quality of life issues. While telecommunications and Internet access have become a vital part of life for millions around the world, way too many people in the United States are left behind. Like other issues, this digital divide impedes the progress of many minorities, and slants the playing field toward our disadvantage.

Should AT&T and BellSouth be blessed to merge, it would be a sign that another aspect of disparity has been toppled. Promises of broadband connection for more consumers, connection at a much more affordable \$10 per month rate, coupled with the opportunity it opens for minorities will make Internet access a reality for many across the country.

With the decision to support this merger, you will have put in motion the process we have always strived for and that is fairness and equitability. I hope that you will keep all in mind what I have conveyed when it comes time to make your decision. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Walker". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Michael A. Walker  
President, Owensboro Chapter NAACP