



Marshall N. Morton
President
Chief Executive Officer

September 26, 2007

BY HAND

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

As the FCC once again evaluates its 1975 newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership regulation, we believe it is critically important that the Commission either eliminate this anachronistic ban altogether or devise a substitute rule that will have the greatest chance of ensuring continued increases in the amount and quality of local news and information that common ownership already has brought, and can continue to bring, to communities of all sizes.

The Commission addresses this issue at a time when television stations and newspapers are facing new competition and shrinking audiences for their legacy platforms, while local consumers have gained direct access to worlds of new information. The economics and operations of our industries are changing rapidly. But, new technology and the internet also create increasing opportunities for newspapers especially to deliver video directly to readers, by-passing television.

By adopting regulations applicable to markets of all sizes, the FCC can affect in a positive fashion publishers' and broadcasters' abilities to deliver high-quality local news and information to consumers however, whenever, and wherever they want it. We believe it is important to both industries that any action short of total repeal of the present rule include a mechanism that takes account of broadcasters' service to their local communities and the public interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marshall N. Morton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marshall N. Morton

MNM/bc