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November 19, 2007

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: Petition for Rulemaking to Facilitate the  
Entry of Small Businesses Into Local Radio Markets  
RM-11388 & MB Docket No. 06-121

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (“MMTC”) strongly supports the Commission’s issuing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that would:

- allow a seller to transfer to any buyer a cluster of radio stations that otherwise exceeds the applicable local radio ownership limit, subject to the buyer’s agreement to transfer the above-cap stations to a qualified small business within twelve months after consummation of the initial transaction (this provision to apply only to the radio-radio ownership rule);
- condition such approval on the requirement that, if an application for transfer of the above-cap stations to a small business has not been filed within twelve months, stations exceeding the cap must be transferred immediately to an irrevocable divestiture trust; and
- if the Commission deems it appropriate, require that the initial buyers file the divestiture trust agreement with the initial application to allow the Commission to evaluate the proposed trust at the outset of the transaction.

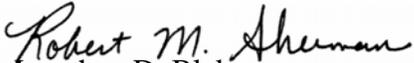
This limited modification to the Commission’s existing radio ownership rule would offer small business entrants crucial flexibility during the limited period necessary to acquire the capital necessary to purchase radio stations, dramatically enhancing the opportunities for such businesses to increase local radio diversity. Importantly, however, the proposal would include meaningful safeguards to prevent misuse of the rule and to provide the Commission with

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sufficient information to evaluate the entire transaction – including any necessary divestiture trust – at its inception. MMTC therefore strongly urges the Commission to grant its Petition for Rulemaking in order to create the regulatory environment necessary for minority and other small business ownership of local radio stations to flourish.

This letter also serves as a report on an *ex parte* conversation that the undersigned had with Christopher Robbins of the Media Bureau, and a phone message they left for Michelle Carey, legal advisor to Chairman Martin, on November 19.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jonathan D. Blake  
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*Counsel to the Minority Media  
& Telecommunications Council*

cc: Amy Blankenship  
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