

Georgetown Partners may have possibly violated bribery law, and supporting members of Congress may have performed ethics violations as well, according to a letter obtained by Orbitcast.

The letter - which was addressed to Sirius CEO Mel Karmazin and sent to Sirius Chairman Joseph Clayton, XM CEO Nate Davis and XM Chairman Gary Parsons - claims that Georgetown Partners may have violated U.S. Code and H.O.R. Code of Official Conduct by contributing money to three politicians, who in turn supported Georgetown in their recommendation to the FCC.

In question are Reps. Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Albert Wynn (D-MD) and Bennie Thompson (D-MS) who all received campaign contributions from executives of Georgetown Partners and subsequently supported Georgetown's attempt to gain broadcast infrastructure of a combined Sirius-XM.

Georgetown has repeatedly urged the FCC, should the agency approve the Sirius-XM merger, to require that 20% of a combined Sirius-XM infrastructure be leased to a minority-controlled entity.

Rep. Gregory Meeks, in fact, originally supported the Sirius-XM merger, but changed his position to support Georgetown.

Meeks received a \$2,000 campaign donation from Chester Davenport, the managing director of Georgetown Partners on October 7th, 2005. In a separate letter to Chairman Martin, six members of Congress also sided with Georgetown Partners' agenda, claiming they feel that "a minority-controlled entity should have rights to the broadcast infrastructure."

Of those six Congressmen, two received campaign contributions from executives of Georgetown, according to the letter:

Rep. Albert R. Wynn received a total of \$27,000 from executives of Georgetown between June 24, 1999 and September 6, 2006.

Rep. Bennie G. Thompson received a \$1,000 campaign contribution from Chester Davenport, just five months before supporting Georgetown in the letter to the FCC Chairman.

The letter obtained by Orbitcast claims that this activity raises the question of possible bribery law violations, citing Rule XXIII Clause 3 of the Code of Official Conduct for members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

A Member...of the House may not receive compensation and may not permit compensation to accrue to his beneficial interest from any source, the receipt of which would occur by virtue of influence improperly exerted from his position in Congress.