



## **National Black Chamber of Commerce**

July 25, 2008

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

*In the matter of Verizon Wireless/ Alltel Corporation Transfer of Control Applications,  
WT Docket No. 08-95*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of the membership of the National Black Chamber of Commerce, I urge you to approve the proposed merger of Verizon Wireless and Alltel Corporation. The government should not stand in the way of this alliance, as it will create an unprecedented communications resource for consumers and businesses.

We strongly believe in the ability of the American free enterprise system to meet the needs of minority consumers. Left unencumbered by high taxes and undue government regulation, the private sector will provide us with the best products available at the best possible price.

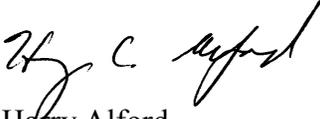
It would be a mistake for the government to prevent this pro-competitive merger from taking place. The new network created will be able to use economies of scale and their combined resources to offer their customers affordable, state-of-the-art services.

Verizon has a proven track record of ongoing investment in innovation and progress. Alltel customers will also realize the advantages of the Verizon Wireless Open Development Initiative, which gives entrepreneurs a chance to bring the latest high-tech devices and creative new services to the public.

Combining these two complementary networks will give Alltel's customers access to a much larger network. This is an example of the free enterprise system functioning as it should – growing and improving to give all American consumers what they want.

The National Black Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to economically empowering and sustaining African American communities through entrepreneurship and capitalistic activity within the United States and via interaction with the Black Diaspora. The chamber believes government intervention in the private sector is too often a restriction on progress and a hindrance to innovation. By allowing this merger to go forward, the FCC will enable the formation of a new entity that will listen to consumers and give them the opportunity to spend their money as they choose, on products and services that truly meet their needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. C. Alford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Harry Alford  
President and CEO