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July 31, 2008

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th 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,

In today's world of innovative and fast-developing technologies, Hispanics have become some of the quickest adopters of new communications methods such as broadband and wireless. The Hispanic Alliance for Progress is an advocacy organization focusing on issues of importance to the Hispanic community. In this spirit, we are pleased with the impending transaction between Verizon Wireless and Alltel. This combination will reinforce competition, spur innovation and bring fascinating new inventions and technologies to the Hispanic community nationwide.

In more than two thirds of this country, Alltel's customers will benefit from the largest cellular telephone network in the U.S. This means millions of additional customers – including many Hispanics among them – will have access to more choice and a singularly advanced broadband capability. With an ever-increasing utilization of high-speed Internet connections among Hispanics, this choice is of particular saliency.

As Hispanics are increasingly penetrating rural areas of this country as well as maintaining a significant presence in urban centers, Verizon Wireless must have the ability to invest in the infrastructure of such disparate locations. This combination, upon approval, will usher a whole host of advanced technologies to areas densely populated with Hispanics.

Verizon Wireless' Open Development architecture helps foster and encourage the development of new devices, services, and other programs by third parties. While allowing these third parties to innovate, it also helps to ensure their products are interoperable with Verizon Wireless and other networks. Alltel's clients will be all the better because of the competition-promoting initiative.

This merger is good for Hispanics and all Americans. We ask for a quick review and a speedy approval.

Sincerely,

Leslie Sanchez
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