



August 19, 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:

As part of our ongoing effort to support modern communications services for the Latino community, the ASPIRA Association wholeheartedly endorses the combination of Verizon Wireless and Alltel Corporation, and we urge the FCC to do the same.

ASPIRA is the only national nonprofit organization devoted solely to the education and leadership development of Puerto Rican and other Latino youth. We believe widespread, affordable access to new communications technologies is an important tool in empowering this community. A more competitive marketplace, such as this proposed acquisition would help create supports the innovation that expands access for everyone.

Latino youth in particular are already avid users of wireless communications services. Cell phones enable them to stay in touch with friends and family, even when they are spread throughout the United States and other countries. This is crucial in the Hispanic culture.

Latinos are also more likely than other groups to use their cell phones for messaging, information gathering and other tasks. Upwardly mobile young Latinos – especially recent immigrants – often move frequently to find better employment. For them, the mobile telephone is the only communications service that will work.

Moreover, access to broadband is essential for the advancement of young Latinos. The education and employment opportunities broadband offers are crucial to their success and will only be enhanced by the full-motion video and multimedia capabilities Verizon will soon make available through their technology.

Allowing Verizon and Alltel to pool their resources will benefit all consumers, not just Latinos. They will gain what every consumer wants and deserves – more choices, better service and more competitive pricing.

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Please give thorough consideration to this acquisition proposal and carefully weigh the advantages it will bring. ASPIRA trusts you will agree with us; this plan is a win for all parties involved and should be given your immediate approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Blackburn Moreno". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Ronald Blackburn Moreno
President and CEO