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September 2, 2009

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notification of Ex Parte Communications
MB Docket No. 07-42

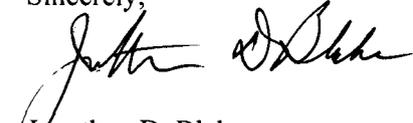
Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, September 1, 2009, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, Jeff Miller, VP/Government Relations & Public Policy, Pete Abitante, NFL Special Assistant to the Commissioner, and the undersigned, met with Chairman Genachowski, Sherrese Smith, Colin Crowell, and Priya Aiyar about a wide range of topics. The purpose of the meeting was for Commissioner Goodell and Chairman Genachowski to exchange views on various industry topics.

In the course of the meeting, the issue of program carriage discrimination complaints by independent programmers against vertically integrated carriers came up. There is an open rulemaking proceeding on the procedures for resolving these complaints in which the NFL filed comments in late 2007. In yesterday's discussion, the NFL referred to the positions it took in that proceeding -- positions that were fortified by its experience with the now-resolved hearing involving Comcast and the NFL Network this spring. Those points were: (1) the anti-discrimination provisions of the Communications Act and the FCC's Rules are essential protections for independent programmers, (2) the present FCC processes and procedures for resolving these issues are slow and cumbersome, and (3) they are weighted disproportionately against independent programmers.

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Jonathan D. Blake
Attorney for the National Football League

cc: Chairman Genachowski
Sherrese Smith
Colin Crowell
Priya Aiyar
Jeff Miller