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March 4, 2010

Ex Parte

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

Re: Implementing a Nationwide, Broadband, Interoperable Public Safety Network in the 700 MHz Band, PS Docket No. 06-229; Service Rules for the 698-746, 747-762 and 777-792 MHz Bands, WT Docket No. 06-150; Petition for Rulemaking Regarding the Need for 700 MHz Mobile Equipment to be Capable of Operating on All Paired Commercial 700 MHz Frequency Blocks, RM-11592

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 3, 2010, Donald Brittingham, Vice President – Wireless Policy, Kathleen Grillo, Senior Vice President, Federal Regulatory Affairs, and the undersigned met with Ruth Milkman, Jim Schlichting, Joel Taubenblatt, Paul Murray, Nese Guendelsberger, Margaret Wiener, and Peter Trachtenberg of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and Tom Peters of the Office of Strategic Planning & Policy Analysis to discuss the 700 MHz “D block.”

We discussed Chairman Genachowski’s recent announcement of his intention to hold a commercial auction for the D block. Consistent with previous filings in this proceeding, Verizon reiterated its support for Congressional action to re-allocate the D block for public safety use. This approach would provide public safety entities with access to sufficient spectrum and direct control over its use, thus ensuring that the D block is used to meet their expanding communications needs. Regardless of whether the D block is re-allocated or auctioned, however, Verizon stated its intention to work with public safety to meet its particular needs for roaming in the 700 MHz band and priority access. Verizon cautioned, however, that requirements relating to roaming, priority access, and devices operating in the D block and elsewhere in the 700 MHz band raise technical challenges that the Commission must take into account before imposing any such requirements. In particular, we noted the company’s concerns about a requirement that all 700 MHz devices be required to operate over the entire 700 MHz band (Upper and Lower bands). Such a requirement would impede the deployment of broadband mobile devices generally and public safety broadband devices in particular.

Pursuant to section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, an electronic copy of this letter is being filed for inclusion in the above-referenced docket. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan L. Pincus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

cc: Ruth Milkman
Jim Schlichting
Joel Taubenblatt
Paul Murray
Nese Guendelsberger
Margaret Wiener
Peter Trachtenberg
Tom Peters