

April 12, 2010

Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554



Re: *Ex Parte* Notice  
Docket No. 09-51 (National Broadband Plan)  
Docket No. 09-191 (Open Internet)  
Docket No. 07-52 (Broadband Industry Practices)  
Docket No. 10-25 (Future of Media)  
Docket No. 06-121 (Media Ownership)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 9, 2010, the Participants listed below, in five separate meetings, met with Commissioner Mignon Clyburn and Rick Kaplan, Chief of Staff for Commissioner Clyburn; Mark Lloyd, Associate General Counsel and Chief Diversity Officer; Commissioner Michael J. Copps and Joshua Cinelli, Media Advisor for Commissioner Copps; Zachary Katz, Deputy Chief, Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis; Rosemary Harold, Legal Advisor, Media for Commissioner Robert M. McDowell; and Brad Gillen, Legal Advisor for media law issues for Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker. The Participants discussed issues related to broadband, journalism, and media ownership.

The Participants attending the meetings with Commissioner Clyburn and Mark Lloyd were: Barbara Ciara, UNITY board; Onica Makwakwa, UNITY board; Joanna Hernandez, UNITY board; Jeanne Mariani-Belding, UNITY board; Cecilia Alvear, UNITY board; Neal Justin, UNITY board; Doris Truong, UNITY board; Sharon Chan, UNITY board and Asian American Journalists Association; Kathy Chow, UNITY board ex-officio and Asian American Journalists Association; Ryan Williams, National Association of Black Journalists; Leisa Richardson, UNITY board; John Yearwood, UNITY board; O. Ricardo Pimentel, UNITY board and National Association of Hispanic Journalists; Ivan Roman, UNITY board ex-officio and National Association of Hispanic Journalists; Peter Ortiz, UNITY board; Ronnie Washines, UNITY board and Native American Journalists Association; Jeff Harjo, UNITY board ex-officio and National Association of Hispanic Journalists; Patty Loew, UNITY board; Derrick Henry, UNITY board; Michaela Saunders, UNITY board; Jeneene Butler, consultant for UNITY; and Joseph Toress, Free Press.

The Participants attending the remainder of the meetings were: Barbara Ciara; Onica Makwakwa; Sharon Chan; Ryan Williams; O. Ricardo Pimentel; Ivan Roman; Ronnie Washines; and Patty Loew.

The Participants discussed the crisis regarding the numerous layoffs of journalists in the past few years, especially journalists of color. To that end, the Participants noted that the Internet has allowed some of these journalists to continue to have a voice and reach audiences. The Participants urged the Commission to ensure that the benefits of broadband and the Internet reach all communities. The Participants stated that universal and affordable access to broadband service is central to ensuring that all communities can take advantage of the Internet's economic, social, and political benefits. The Participants also noted that open networks, non-discrimination, and freedom of expression are fundamental principles of Internet access. Thus, network neutrality is critical to ensuring these principles and that every idea expressed on the Internet gets a fair chance. Finally, with respect to broadband generally, the Participants urged the Commission to act quickly to assert its authority over broadband services so that the Commission can protect the interests of all Internet users.

The Participants also expressed concern over the current state of media ownership. The Participants stated it was critical for people of color to be able to access the media and have ownership of media properties. The Participants also asked that the Commission consider reviewing license renewals every three or four years.

The Participants left copies of editorials and letters outlining UNITY's issues of concern, which are being filed concurrently with this ex parte.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b), 47 C.F.R. §1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, this letter, with attachments, is being filed electronically with your office today.

Respectfully submitted,



Parul P. Desai