

FILED/ACCEPTED

JUL - 2 2009

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

July 2, 2009

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

Re: Petition for Inquiry into Hate Speech in Media

Dear Ms. Dortch:

We, the undersigned, urge the Federal Communications Commission to grant and expedite the National Hispanic Media Coalition's (NHMC) call for an inquiry into the extent, nature and impact of hate speech in our nation's media. We support NHMC's request that the Commission explore options to counteract or reduce the negative impact of hate speech by examining the causal relationship between hate speech in media and the violence against Latinos and other vulnerable Americans. In the alternative, we ask that the Commission put NHMC's petition for inquiry out for public comment.

Like NHMC, the undersigned believe that hate speech on our airwaves has negative multi-factorial effects on American audiences and especially our young population.

By initiating this inquiry we expect the FCC to:

- Collect the necessary data and information about hate speech that can be disseminated to broadcasters and the general public;
- Help raise public awareness of the issue; and
- Provide a public forum to allow comments on hate speech incidents in local communities.

The undersigned are respectful of First Amendment rights, however, the FCC, as a federal regulatory agency, has an obligation to help educate broadcasters and to protect the public from harm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cuban American National Council, Inc.
Labor Council For Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives (NAHFE)
National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP)
The Committee for Hispanic Children & Families, Inc.
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI)

cc: Chairman Julius Genachowski, Commissioner Michael Copps, Commissioner Robert McDowell, Sherrese Smith, Bruce Liang Gottlieb, Rick Chesson, Rosemary Harold, Mary Beth Murphy