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November 3, 2012

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

Office of the Secretary

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Re: PS Docket 11-153 and 10-255: Text-to-9-1-1

On behalf of the state of Minnesota, acting through its Division of Emergency Communication Networks (DECN), I urge the Commission to adopt an order as soon as possible that will enable deployment of SMS text-to-9-1-1 to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) that are ready and prepared to make a request. The order should also require that there be a "bounce back" message informing the sender to make a 9-1-1 voice call when a text cannot be delivered to a PSAP.

DECN believes that texting is an important alternative means to reach 9-1-1 in those emergency situations where a voice call is not feasible. Early trials demonstrate success of text-to-9-1-1 capability utilizing existing texting technology. DECN is concerned that deferring action on the basic requirement will likely lead to uncertainty and lack of uniformity in a solution adding cost to local units of government.

Minnesota looks forward to the Commissions leadership on text-to-9-1-1.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jackie Mines".

Jackie Mines, Director
Emergency Communication Networks