



December 5, 2013

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

Re: *Ex Parte* disclosure pursuant to 47 CFR § 1.1206(b) in MB Docket No. 09-182, MB Docket No. 07-294, BO Docket No. 12-30; GN Docket 13-5

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 3, 2013 the following individuals, who represent members of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights Media and Telecommunications Task Force, met in separate meetings with Jonathan Sallet and Maria Kirby of Chairman Wheeler's office. Attending the meeting with Ms. Kirby were: Corrine Yu, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights; Gabe Rottman, American Civil Liberties Union, Task Force Co-Chair; Cheryl Leanza, United Church of Christ, OC Inc., Task Force Co-Chair; Chanelle Hardy and Sean Mickens, National Urban League; Hilary Shelton, NAACP; Jessica Gonzalez, National Hispanic Media Coalition (by telephone); Todd O'Boyle, Common Cause; and Edward Carlson, National Council of La Raza. All of the above were joined by Olivia Wein, National Consumer Law Center and Debbie Goldman, Communications Workers of America in the meeting with Mr. Sallet.

With Mr. Sallet, we reviewed the attached letter submitted by the Task Force in this docket. We emphasized that many of the communities continue to undersubscribe to broadband. We urged the Commission to obtain detailed, transparent and independent data on communities of color, women and people with disabilities in any trial so that we can track how those communities fare during the transition. Because consumers rely on this technology, consumers must have a means to seek redress when the unexpected occurs during and after the transition. We urged the Commission to ensure that multi-lingual and culturally sensitive outreach is used. We noted that during the DTV transition, significant resources were expended to educate the public. Ms. Goldman noted, in particular, that a technology transition should not be used as an excuse to eliminate unionized jobs or move jobs overseas.

In our meeting with Ms. Kirby we expressed our interest in working closely with the Chairman as he develops his agenda, and shared with her several of our filings.¹

¹ We shared the following documents with Ms. Kirby: Leadership Conference Media Ownership [Comments](#) (filed March 5, 2012); Leadership Conference Ex Parte [Letter](#) on Media Ownership Data (filed December 5, 2012); Leadership Ownership Data [Comments](#) (filed Dec. 26, 2013); and UCC OC Inc., NOW, CWA, Common Cause, *et al.* Ownership Data [Comments](#) (filed Dec. 26, 2013).

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Executive Vice President & COO
Karen McGill Lawson



Communities of color and women should have opportunities to control the distribution and creation of images about themselves. We look forward to working with the Chairman to consider the variety of technologies and policy initiatives that would accomplish that objective. We emphasized the importance of collecting data that tracks the impact of media consolidation on women and people of color, as mandated by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in *Prometheus v. FCC*. We noted that it is our view that the Commission does not yet have adequate data to make a decision in the Quadrennial Review. We expressed our support for the Section 257 Critical Information Needs studies as a mechanism to obtain such data, and encouraged the Commission to move ahead with the effort, paying special attention to its ability to assess the needs of linguistic minorities.

The Leadership Conference is a coalition charged by its diverse membership of more than 200 national organizations to promote and protect the rights of all persons in the United States. In both meetings we noted that Leadership Conference filings reflect a carefully crafted consensus position among our member organizations. We encouraged Commission staff to reach out to us with regard to any issues relating to the civil rights community.

Please contact Leadership Conference Media/Telecommunications Task Force Co-Chairs Cheryl Leanza, United Church of Christ, OC Inc., at 202-841-6033, Gabe Rottman, ACLU, at 202-675-2325, or Corrine Yu, Leadership Conference Managing Policy Director at 202-466-5670, if you would like to discuss the above issues or any other issues of importance to The Leadership Conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cheryl A. Leanza".

Cheryl A. Leanza
Policy Advisor, United Church of Christ, OC Inc.
Co-Chair, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights,
Media and Telecommunications Task Force