

November 12, 2013

Hon. Tom Wheeler
Chair
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

Congratulations on your recent confirmation as Chair of the Federal Communications Commission. As a coalition of civil rights and media/telecommunications advocacy organizations, we are eager to work with you on the many critical issues related to media and technology facing our communities.

Earlier this year, we [wrote](#) to President Obama outlining some of the key civil rights principles we hoped the next Chair of the FCC would take under consideration. Broadly, these include: recognition of the civil rights implications of many of the issues on the FCC's agenda; enhancing diversity and inclusion in the media and telecommunications industries; improving diversity and inclusion at all levels of FCC staffing; and the establishment by the Chair of a collaborative process and dialogue with the civil rights community in addressing these principles.

We identified the above issues because they have been areas of great concern within our respective communities. While we recognize that the Commission has many urgent priorities, issues related to media and civil rights have been unduly and unfairly neglected. We are hopeful that this may be starting to change. We applaud the efforts of Acting Chair Mignon Clyburn who, in her brief tenure, has moved quickly on several long-neglected fronts, including an order to provide relief on prison phone rates, movement on the overdue Section 257 studies, and the commissioning of new reports, including one on the growing Latino media. We look forward to the Commission continuing to advance this vital work under your leadership.

To that end, we would like to request a meeting with you as soon as possible to begin this process and see how we can continue to build on the momentum the Commission has gained in the last few months. Again, we look forward to the opportunity to work with you on issues of such importance to our country. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Corrine Yu, Leadership Conference Managing Policy Director at 202-466-5670. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ACLU
Asian American Justice Center, a Member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice
Center for Media Justice
ColorOfChange
Consumers Union
Free Press
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
NAACP
National Council of La Raza
National Hispanic Media Coalition
National Urban League
NOW Foundation
New America Foundation's Open Technology Institute
Public Knowledge

Cc: Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O’Rielly
Tom Power, Executive Office of the President, Office of Science and Technology Policy