

U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

January 15, 2014

The Honorable Tom Wheeler, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

14-60

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

As the House Co-Chairs of the Next Gen 9-1-1 Caucus, we were pleased that you highlighted the importance of 9-1-1 during your recent testimony before the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. Your comments, coupled with the FCC's adoption last month of an order to improve the reliability and resiliency of 9-1-1 networks nationwide, demonstrates the Agency's continued commitment to our nation's first responders.

With an increasing number of 9-1-1 calls being placed from wireless phones (70 percent by one estimate), we believe the Agency must do more to ensure first responders have the necessary information to locate calls made to 9-1-1 from indoor locations. As a 2011 report by the FCC highlighted, the inability to locate a caller during an emergency is a "significant public safety concern" that requires development of technical solutions.

We commend the Commission's efforts to-date, including establishing a working group through the Communications, Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council (CSRIC) and also holding a public workshop in November. To be clear, we do not endorse any particular technology, and believe the Commission has the necessary information to proceed with a proposed rulemaking that would set standards for indoor location accuracy, just as we have today for calls made outdoors.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to enhancing the quality and reliability of 9-1-1 services across the nation.

Sincerely,



Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chair, Next Gen 9-1-1 Caucus



John M. Shimkus  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chair, Next Gen 9-1-1 Caucus

cc: Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Ajit Pai  
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 28, 2014

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
U.S. House of Representatives  
241 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515;

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter regarding location accuracy requirements for E911 calls placed from wireless devices – particularly calls made from indoor locations. As you point out, Americans are increasingly relying on their wireless phones, and rightfully expect that their emergency calls will bring the help that they need. When the original E911 rules for wireless providers were first adopted, they were built on the assumption that the primary place consumers would use their wireless phones would be outside. But today, the vast majority of wireless calls are made from indoors, including 911 calls made from wireless phones.

In our ongoing rulemaking proceeding on E911 location accuracy, we have been exploring ways to ensure that the Commission's rules keep pace with technology and wireless 911 calling trends, including the increase in wireless calls from indoor locations. Last week at the FCC's February 20 agenda meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted a *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in this proceeding. The *Further Notice* will seek comment on a proposal that wireless providers meet certain benchmarks for indoor location accuracy and proposes other changes to ensure that wireless providers are taking the appropriate steps to deliver accurate location information to 911 call centers.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. We will include your letter in the record of this proceeding for full Commission consideration. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 28, 2014

The Honorable John Shimkus  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2452 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Shimkus:

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