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July 23, 2014

Via Electronic Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 14-77

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 22 and 23, 2014, representatives of Florida A&M University (FAMU) and BTNC met with Commissioners and staff of the Federal Communications Commission to discuss the positive impact that a grant of the Black Television News Channel (BTNC) Request for a Limited, Temporary Waiver would have on the Florida A&M University School of Journalism.¹

On July 22, Dr. Elmira Mangum, President of FAMU, along with Ann Wead Kimbrough (Dean, School of Journalism & Graphic Communication), Jimmy Miller (VP for Communications and External Relations), Kellen Winslow, Sr. (Athletic Director), J.C. Watts (Managing Partner, BTNC), Steven Pruitt (management team, BTNC), Evan Leo, counsel for BTNC, and Monica Desai, advisor to BTNC, held separate meetings with Commissioner Clyburn along with her senior legal advisor, Adonis Hoffman, and law clerk Adrian Peguese, and with Commissioner O'Reilly, along with his senior legal advisor, Courtney Reinhard.

On July 23, Ms. Wead, Mr. Miller, and Ms. Desai held separate meetings with Matthew Berry, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Pai, and with Clint Odom, Policy Director to Commissioner Rosenworcel.

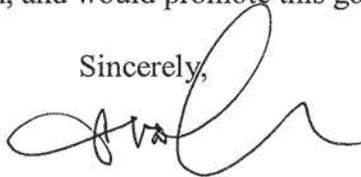
¹ Black Television News Channel, Request for a Limited, Temporary Waiver, MB Docket No. 14-77 (filed May 6, 2014).

In the meeting, representatives of FAMU discussed the partnership between BTNC and FAMU, and the strong, positive impacts that granting the waiver requested by BTNC would have on FAMU, one of the nation's most elite historically black colleges and universities. Dr. Mangum and Ms. Kimbrough provided background related to the FAMU School of Journalism, and its rich history and world-class program. They discussed the various ways in which the school and the program would be enhanced through the BTNC partnership, and more specifically, the following details of the partnership:

- BTNC will house its network operations center on the campus of FAMU's journalism school, and as a result, a diverse pool of faculty, alumni and students will be able to serve as on-air contributing analysts;
- There will be a new, state-of-the-art media training center, benefitting students;
- There will be 40 internships and mentoring programs related to news and media;
- Students will receive a unique, hands-on training opportunity in a fully automated, active newsroom and HDTV television production environment;
- There will be significant capital improvements to the existing broadcast training facility;
- The curriculum will be enhanced to allow for intensive training in in-depth and investigative reporting, and training in the coverage of local community issues;
- Equally important – there will be a steady outlet for news, serving an underserved audience;
- There will be two minutes per hour of promotional air time dedicated to the promotion of HBCUs and National Association of Black Journalists training services, activities and events.

In addition, BTNC and FAMU discussed the Commission's obligations under section 257 of the Communications Act to promote a diversity of media voices. Granting BTNC's waiver is fully consistent with, and would promote this goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evan T. Leo", written in a cursive style.

Evan T. Leo