August 22, 2014

Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554
RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

On behalf of the National Black Chamber of Commerce (NBCC), I am writing to you to express my support for the potential Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger.

NBCC is dedicated to economically empowering and sustaining African American communities through entrepreneurship and capitalistic activity, working with chapters and member companies in 140 communities. In our experience, Comcast consistently makes and upholds commitments made to improve the quality of life in the communities it serves by enhancing opportunities for minority-owned businesses and employees of color.

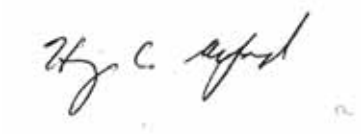
Comcast is regularly rated as a top place to work for both women and minorities, who make up 40% of the company's workforce and nearly half of all new hires. It was also one of the few companies that didn't shed jobs during the massive layoff waves of the Great Recession. Since the transaction with NBCUniversal, Comcast has increased its spending with minority-owned suppliers and vendors by 20% and continues to work to increase supplier diversity.

Comcast's vow to increase investments in the networks it acquires in this transaction will only expand the reach and quality of its services, stimulating economic development in areas across the country. These investments will bring Comcast's business class high-speed Internet and voice services to more markets, offering better services and promoting competition in those markets. Also, in a deal like this where the two companies operate in different geographic areas, the risk of local job loss is essentially non-existent. Therefore, we expect this merger will generate economic growth for the benefit of businesses of all sizes.

Just as Comcast invests in its employees and in its networks, so too does it invest in the future of the local workforce in each community. Programs like Internet Essentials and Digital Connectors, along with its many mentorship and scholarship programs, are helping to equip both students and adult workers with the skills necessary to contribute to the 21st Century digital economy.

There are a number of factors for the Commission to consider in this proposed transaction, and each should be given due scrutiny. But I can say with full confidence that this proposed deal offers several real public interest benefits for minority-owned businesses and for the communities that Comcast intends to serve post approval, and I am hopeful that the deal is ultimately approved.

Sincerely,



Harry C. Alford
President/CEO