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**VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

October 12, 2009

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Implementing a Nationwide, Broadband, Interoperable Public Safety Network  
in the 700 MHz Band - PS Docket No. 06-229

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

There is a growing misconception by some that in two to three years wireless broadband will be an alternative to Land Mobile Radio (LMR) mission critical voice systems. It also appears that some believe that the 12 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz band designated for public safety narrowband voice systems should be reallocated for public safety broadband.

This misconception also came to light in questions raised by some members of Congress at a Hearing conducted on September 24, 2009, by the House Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet. I was one of the witnesses at that hearing.

To dispel this misinformation, I have prepared the attached white paper in an effort to address the issues and to explain the serious negative operational and monetary consequences this misconception could have on the public safety community. As noted in the white paper, there are no technical broadband standards in place or planned to provide the one-to-many communications and talk around (unit-to-unit) capability needed for mission critical public safety voice communications. Public safety agencies have already spent millions to deploy land mobile radio voice systems in the narrowband 700 MHz spectrum with many more deployments being planned.

I urge you or members of your staff to contact me if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Respectfully,

Harlin R. McEwen  
Chairman, IACP Communications and Technology Committee