



June 1, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington DC 20554

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication, PS Docket No. 15-91

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 25, Sam Matheny, David Layer and the undersigned of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) met with David Simpson, Greg Cooke and James Wiley of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, to discuss the public safety benefits of expanded access to free, over-the-air radio via mobile devices and smartphones.

We noted that Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs) provide important, timely warnings about impending emergencies, but are limited in scope and utility compared to the comprehensive ongoing news that broadcasters provide before, during and after an emergency. As a result, most WEA messages include text directing consumers to "Check Local Media" for more information and instructions. We explained that simplifying the connection between WEA messages and the FM radio already available in many smartphones would be a logical extension of this current practice. We also noted that enabling access to radio via smartphones would help to alleviate cellular network congestion during emergencies, as well as help to preserve the battery life of smartphones. In this vein, we discussed potential mechanisms for complementing WEA messages with enhanced access to radio, for the public safety benefit of consumers.

We look forward to further coordination with both the Commission and mobile phone service providers and manufacturers.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence A. Walke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lawrence" being the most prominent.

Lawrence A. Walke

cc: Admiral David Simpson (Ret.), Gregory M. Cooke, James Wiley

1771 N Street NW
Washington DC 20036 2800
Phone 202 429 5300