



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 11-1818
October 31, 2011

NOTICE CONCERNING *EX PARTE* STATUS OF PRESENTATIONS MADE TO THE EMERGENCY ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On December 7, 2010, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski announced the establishment of the Emergency Access Advisory Committee (EAAC), an advisory committee required by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 (CVAA).¹ The purpose of the EAAC is to determine the most effective and efficient technologies and methods by which to enable access to Next Generation 911 emergency services by individuals with disabilities.² In order to fulfill this mission, the CVAA directs that within one year after the EAAC's members are appointed, the Committee shall conduct a national survey, with the input of groups represented by the Committee's membership, after which the Committee shall develop and submit to the Commission recommendations to implement such technologies and methods.³

Under the CVAA and the charter and by-laws adopted by the EAAC, the Commission is responsible for oversight of the EAAC, including its informal working groups and subcommittees.⁴ As a result, Commission staff may participate in meetings or other activities held by the EAAC or its informal working groups or subcommittees. We are therefore announcing that, pursuant to section 1.1200(a) of the Commission's rules,⁵ presentations to the EAAC will be treated as exempt presentations for *ex parte* purposes. This treatment is appropriate because presentations to the EAAC, like comments in response to a Notice of Inquiry, will not directly result in the promulgation of rules.⁶

We recognize, however, that issues that may be considered or addressed by the EAAC are the subject of a number of pending Commission proceedings. The Commission will not rely

¹ Pub. L. No. 111-260, as amended by technical amendments contained in Pub. L. No. 111-265 ("Pub. L. No. 111-260"). See *Emergency Access Advisory Committee Announcement of Members and Co-Chairpersons*, Public Notice, DA 10-2318 (CGB rel. Dec. 7, 2010).

² Pub. L. No. 111-260 § 106(a).

³ Pub. L. No. 111-260 § 106(c).

⁴ Pub. L. No. 111-260. See *Structure of the EAAC, Charter and By-Laws*, <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-access-advisory-committee-eaac>.

⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1200(a).

⁶ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1204(b)(1) (exempt treatment of Notices of Inquiry).

in these proceedings on any information submitted to the EAAC, or to any of its subcommittees or working groups, unless that information has been filed in the record of the relevant proceeding.

Additional information regarding the EAAC can be found at <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-access-advisory-committee-eaac>. For more information, contact Cheryl King at (202) 418-2284 or Cheryl.king@fcc.gov or Patrick Donovan at (202) 418-2413 or patrick.donovan@fcc.gov.

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