

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554 News Media Information 202/418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF LITERATURE REVIEW OF RESEARCH ON CRITICAL INFORMATION NEEDS AND MARKET ENTRY BARRIERS TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

BO Docket No. 12-30

The FCC's Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO) will host a public meeting to review a draft report prepared by a coalition of scholars brought together by the University of Southern California's Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism. The research was commissioned to examine existing research into the critical information needs of the American public and market-entry barriers to participation in the communications industry.

This meeting is free and open to the public and will be held on Tuesday, June 26, 2012, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the FCC Headquarters, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC in the Commission Meeting Room. During this time, the USC-Annenberg Coalition will present their draft findings to the Commission and an independent panel of scholars and industry representatives which will be followed by an opportunity for members of the public to provide feedback and inquire about the research results.

OCBO commissioned this study in order to begin to identify market entry barriers and whether such barriers impact the public's critical information needs. The study will inform the Commission's 2012 Report to Congress about the barriers to participation in the communications industry, also known as the Section 257 Report. Section 257 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, mandates that every three years the Commission reviews and reports on (1) efforts to identify and eliminate market entry barriers in the provision and ownership of telecommunications services and information services by entrepreneurs or other small businesses, and (2) proposals to eliminate statutory barriers to market entry by those entities, consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Though not required, all persons interested in attending this informative event in person are asked to register by contacting OCBO at (202) 418-0990 or via e-mail at <u>Karen.Beverly@fcc.gov</u>. Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are

available upon request. The request should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed and contact information. Please provide as much advance notice as possible; last minute requests will be accepted, but may be difficult to fill. Send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

The public is also invited to submit written comments in response to the executive summary of the draft report. A copy of the executive summary will be placed on the OCBO website (<u>http://www.fcc.gov/office-communications-business-opportunities</u>) not later than the morning of the public discussion. Interested parties may file written comments in FCC Docket 12-30 not later than July 26, 2012. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceeding*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comment may be filed electronically using the Internet accessing the ECFS: <u>http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/</u>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. Filing can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.
- All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TWA325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.
- U.S Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW Washington DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to: <u>fcc504@fcc.gov</u> or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

More information about the event can be obtained from Daniel Margolis via e-mail at <u>Daniel.Margolis@fcc.gov</u> or by phone at 202-418-1377.