**DA 23-1020**

**Released: October 27, 2023**

**MEDIA BUREAU ANNOUNCES Effective Date of RULES EXPANDING AVAILABILITY OF Audio Description**

**MB Docket No. 11-43**

On October 17, 2023, the Commission adopted the *2023 Audio Description Order*,which expanded the Commission’s audio description requirements by phasing them in for an additional 10 designated market areas (DMAs) each year until all 210 DMAs are included.[[1]](#footnote-3) Specifically, the newruleswill phase in the existing audio description requirements to DMAs 101 through 110 on January 1, 2025, extending to 10 additional DMAs per year until the phase-in concludes with DMAs 201 through 210 on January 1, 2035.[[2]](#footnote-4) Those rules become effective 30 days after publication of the order in the Federal Register.[[3]](#footnote-5) The Federal Register published a summary of the *2023 Audio Description Order* on October 27, 2023.[[4]](#footnote-6) Accordingly, the rules adopted in the *2023 Audio Description Order* will take effect on November 27, 2023.

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For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Diana Sokolow, Policy Division, Media Bureau, 202-418-2120.

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1. *Video Description: Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010*, MB Docket No. 11-43, Second Report and Order, FCC 23-82 (2023) (*2023 Audio Description Order*). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
2. *See id*. at para. 9. In accordance with the audio description expansion adopted in 2020, the Commission’s audio description rules will expand to DMAs 91 through 100 on January 1, 2024. *See* 47 CFR § 79.3(b)(1). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
3. *See 2023 Audio Description Order* at para. 17. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
4. Federal Communications Commission, Video Description: Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, 88 Fed. Reg. 73758 (Oct. 27, 2023). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)