



PUBLIC NOTICE

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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 Specifically, the new rules will 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 Those rules become effective 30 days after publication of the order in the Federal Register.³ The Federal Register published a summary of the *2023 Audio Description Order* on October 27, 2023.⁴ Accordingly, the rules adopted in the *2023 Audio Description Order* will take effect on November 27, 2023.

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 fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 844 432-2275 (videophone).

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*).

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).

³ *See 2023 Audio Description Order* at para. 17.

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).