



# NEWS

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**Federal Communications Commission**  
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**Washington, D. C. 20554**

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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**LINDA PARIS NAMED ACTING DIRECTOR OF MEDIA RELATIONS;  
JAY HEIMBACH NAMED ACTING DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AND  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS;  
JOY HOWELL AND SHERYL WILKERSON LEAVE COMMISSION**

Washington, DC -- Linda Paris has been named Acting Director of the Federal Communications Commission's Office of Media Relations (OMR), and Jay Heimbach as Acting Director of the Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs (OLIA). They replace Joy Howell and Sheryl Wilkerson, respectively.

In announcing the appointments of Paris and Heimbach, Chairman William Kennard said, "I'm very fortunate to have these two members of my team, who know the Commission so well, ready and willing to assume these new responsibilities. Linda and Jay bring enormous energy and vitality to the table as well as a wealth of experience."

Paris, Associate Director of OMR since March 1998, will assume responsibility for managing the FCC's media relations and Internet services programs. Prior to joining the Commission, Paris worked at the U.S. Department of Labor and in the Office of the Vice President. She is a graduate of Tufts University.

Heimbach currently serves as Legal Advisor to the Cable Services Bureau Chief. Prior to the FCC, Heimbach held two positions at the White House, where he served as senior policy advisor to the Deputy Chief of Staff and as a Special Assistant to the Director of Legislative Affairs. He has also worked as a consultant in the private sector. He received a B.A. in government from Colby College and a J.D. from Boston University School of Law.

Howell, who was Director of OMR since March 1999, and Wilkerson, who headed OLIA since November 1997, left the Commission to work on the Democratic Presidential campaign.

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Chairman Kennard said, "The FCC is losing the services of two of its outstanding senior staff. Joy has been an enormous asset to me and the entire agency during her time here. She was extremely effective in designing the FCC's communications strategy and getting our message heard. Sheryl has been at my side for the entire rollout of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, both in her present capacity and as my special counsel when I was the FCC's General Counsel. The Commission has benefited greatly by having her during this historic time in telecom history."

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