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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. Circ 1974).

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STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS ON COMPLAINTS RECEIVED REGARDING HOWARD STERN BROADCAST ON NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND REMEMBRANCE

I am saddened and dismayed at remarks reportedly made on Howard Stern's nationally syndicated radio program last week during our National Day of Prayer and Remembrance. Our country has been through one of the most difficult and trying weeks in its long and sometimes painful history. It was a week of precious lives lost, endless hours of painful and sustained rescue and relief work, countless acts of individual and community heroism, and a reaffirmation of the ties that forge the unity of the American people in times of national emergency. It was a week when America's broadcast media and other communications companies performed with self-sacrifice and often heroism. Most of Stern's programming last week seemed sensitive to this and supportive of encouraging a positive reaction to the disaster we had experienced. So it was all the more surprising that remarks were made, from whatever motivation, that so crudely distorted and demeaned the essential nobility of what our people were coming together to accomplish. Americans are a tolerant people, but hundreds of complaints coming to me in recent days demonstrate heartfelt revulsion over statements that were, to many, offensive and indecent.

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