



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission**  
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## **JIM SCHLICHTING TO BECOME DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**

Washington, DC – Ed Thomas, Chief of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) has announced that Jim Schlichting will become a Deputy Chief of OET. Ed stated on Jim's appointment, "I am delighted that Jim is joining our office. I am certain that his vast experience and keen legal mind will be of great benefit to OET."

Most recently, Schlichting served as a Deputy Bureau Chief in the Commission's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. In that position he oversaw the Bureau's Policy and Commercial Wireless Divisions. Those two Divisions have been generally responsible for many of the Bureau's rulemaking policy proceedings relating to commercial wireless services; the licensing of commercial mobile wireless services; and the review of mobile wireless license transfer issues involved in merger transactions. Those proceedings have included those implicating the competitive provision of commercial wireless services as well as those affecting wireless consumers, such as the provision of wireless basic and enhanced 911 services.

Prior to his position in the Wireless Bureau, he served as Deputy Chief of the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau, with particular responsibility for policy issues related to common carrier pricing and universal service. Previously, he served as Chief of that Bureau's Competitive Pricing Division, which was responsible for developing and implementing policies for reforming the Commission's interstate access charge and price cap rules in light of the new competitive paradigm of the 1996 Act. Before that, Schlichting was Chief of its Policy and Program Planning Division for six years, when it was responsible for Commission common carrier policy issues in such areas as interexchange competition, interstate access charges, enhanced services, video dialtone, and the emergence of competition to local telephone companies.

Schlichting has been at the FCC since August 1985. Before becoming Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau's Policy Division, he served as Special Counsel for Domestic Policy in that Division, and as Legal Advisor on common carrier issues to FCC Chairman Dennis R. Patrick. In 1986, Schlichting was co-author of a law review article entitled "Back to the Future: A Model for Telecommunications," 38 Fed. Comm. L.J. 145. Before coming to the Commission, Schlichting was an attorney with the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, where he worked on telecommunications and litigation matters.

Schlichting received his B.A. degree from Yale University, *summa cum laude*, and his J.D. degree, *magna cum laude*, from the Harvard Law School. He also received a research certificate in history from Cambridge University, and served as law clerk to Judges Tone, and then Swygert, on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit in Chicago.

