



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2003

NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS:
Jordan Goldstein: (202) 418-2000

FCC COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS REACTS TO REFUSAL TO ALLOW PUBLIC AIRING OF PENDING MEDIA CONCENTRATION RULES

Washington – Commissioner Copps reacted today to a press release that FCC Chairman Michael Powell has refused a request from Commissioners Copps and Adelstein for a public airing of proposed media concentration rules and a brief postponement to allow public reaction.

Copps said “This is really disappointing. The Chairman’s decision not to make these proposals public, nor even to grant a short delay in voting, runs roughshod over the requests of the American people and the precedents of this Commission. This rush to judgment means that we will not fully understand the impact of the specific proposals on our media landscape before we are forced to vote. We are rushing to passage of new rules without letting the American people know who is going to own and control the public airwaves for years to come and without gaining the benefit of their input on what is being proposed. This is no way to do business when critical issues affecting every American are at stake. I am disappointed that the Chairman refuses to heed the calls of colleagues, as well as many Members of Congress, to let the sun shine on his proposals before the Commission decides on further media concentration.”

- FCC -