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FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell Announces Appointment Of Lisa M. Zaina As Chief Executive Officer Of The Universal Service Administrative Company

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Michael K. Powell announced today that he has appointed Lisa M. Zaina as Chief Executive Officer of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). Zaina currently serves as senior legal advisor to FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein.

“Lisa has long been a friend of the Commission, of rural Americans and of mine,” Powell said. “She has been a tireless voice in support of our universal service principles at the Commission throughout her years of service to this Commission. Although the Commission is losing a tremendous asset, USAC is gaining a dedicated champion of universal and affordable phone service. I am thrilled to appoint her CEO of USAC so that she may continue her service to America’s schools and libraries, rural health care facilities, high-cost areas and low-income consumers.”

The USAC Board of Directors unanimously recommended the selection of Lisa Zaina to replace Cheryl L. Parrino as USAC CEO.

“I hate to see Cheryl leave, she has done a tremendous job of leading USAC with integrity and professionalism however I am thrilled that someone of Lisa’s caliber and integrity would agree to lead USAC forward” said USAC Board Chairman Frank Gumper. “She is the perfect person to lead USAC forward and build on the excellent foundation that Cheryl built.”

Zaina currently serves as Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein. She was formerly Vice President for Industry and Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Secretary of Shenandoah Telecommunications Company (Shentel) in Edinburg, VA. Prior to joining Shentel, she served as Senior Vice President for Wallman Strategic Consulting, LLC. She also served as Senior Counsel and Deputy Bureau Chief for the Federal Communications Commission’s Common Carrier Bureau (now the Wireline Competition Bureau) as well as Vice President and General Counsel of the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small

Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO). She also served as Deputy Assistant General Counsel for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC).

Zaina received her J.D. from the Wake Forest University School of Law and her B.A. in psychology and pre-medicine from the University of Notre Dame.

“I look forward to continuing to work with USAC, its dedicated staff, and Lisa, as we make universal service a success for all Americans,” said Powell.

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