



NEWS

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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).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FCC PROPOSES TO FINE DIRECTV, INC. \$87,500 FOR REPOSITIONING SATELLITE WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION

Washington, D.C.—Today, the Federal Communications Commission proposed an \$87,500 forfeiture against DIRECTV, Inc., for repositioning the DIRECTV 3 satellite without FCC authorization.

Section 25.117(a) of the FCC's Rules required DIRECTV to get Commission approval before repositioning the satellite from its authorized orbit to a location for which it was not licensed. DIRECTV had filed a request with the FCC for special temporary authority to relocate DIRECTV 3, but admits that its employees began repositioning the satellite the next day, without waiting for Commission approval of its request. In setting the amount of the forfeiture, the Commission noted that strict adherence to the rules governing modification of satellite authorizations is critical to minimizing the risk of collisions between satellites.

Action by the Commission, June 14, 2004, Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (FCC 04-138). Chairman Powell, Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, Martin, and Adelstein.

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