



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. Circ 1974).

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY FOR COMMUNICATIONS IN THE DIGITAL AGE ADOPTS RECOMMENDATIONS

Washington, D.C. – The Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age held its fifth meeting on Friday, December 10, 2004, at Florida Memorial College, a Historically Black College in Miami, Florida.

“I want to commend the Advisory Committee on Diversity for its vision, dedication, and hard work and thank all of the members for their selfless efforts to devise ways to foster diversity in the communications industries,” said FCC Chairman Michael Powell.

During the meeting the Committee adopted recommendations from its subcommittees. Those recommendations included:

- establishing a web site that will serve as a diversity resource directory;
- modifying the Commission’s current EEO rules to include separate “menus” for recruitment and for career advancement;
- urging the Commission to issue a declaratory ruling concerning foreign investment in broadcast properties that could enhance access to capital for minority entrepreneurs;
- urging the Commission to issue a policy statement that divestiture remedies should be fashioned to promote practical opportunities for small businesses, women and minorities to own and operate media and telecommunications services;
- adopting a follow-up report on the best of Best Practices to promote diversity.

The meeting was preceded by a “kick-off” event for the new “Communications Technology Supplier Diversity Business Development Program.” The Supplier Diversity Program is a new industry initiative designed to support new technology introduction throughout the communications industry from businesses that meet Small Business Administration guidelines.

The Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age was formed by FCC Chairman Michael Powell in the summer of 2003. Its mission is to provide guidance to the Commission on policies and practices that could further enhance the ability of minorities and women to participate in the telecommunications and related industries. The Committee issues reports and makes recommendations concerning the need for any guidelines, incentives, regulations or other policy approaches to promote diversity of participation in the communications sector. It has also developed a description of best practices within the communications sector for promoting diversity of participation.

Members of the Federal Advisory Committee are:

Jenny Alonzo President, National Association for Multiethnicity In Communications
Decker Anstrom President, COO, Landmark Communications
Andrew Barrett Managing Director, The Barrett Group, Inc.
Matthew Blank Chairman, CEO, Showtime Networks
Maria Brennan Executive Director, American Women in Radio and Television
Benita Fitzgerald Mosley President, Women in Cable and Telecommunications
A. Anthony Gee General Partner, Carthage Venture Partners
Joan Gerberding President, Nassau Radio Network
Steve Hillard President, CEO, Council Tree Communications
Priscilla Hill-Ardoin Senior VP, Regulatory Compliance, SBC
David Honig Executive Director, Minority Media and Telecommunications Council
Jamie Howard COO, BigBand Networks, Inc.
Julia Johnson President, NetCommunications
Ginger Lew CEO, Managing Director, Telecommunications Development Fund
Alfred C. Liggins President & CEO, Radio One
Vonya McCann Sr. VP, Federal External Affairs, Sprint
Francisco R. Montero Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth
Henry Rivera Partner, Vinson & Elkins
Riley Temple Partner, Halprin, Temple
Lauren Tyler Partner, Quetzal/JP Morgan Partners, L.P.
Terdema Ussery President, CEO Dallas Mavericks, CEO HDNet
Alex Wallau President, ABC Television Network
Kelvin Westbrook President, CEO, Millenium Digital Media
Jim Winston President, General Counsel, National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters
Roscoe Young CEO, COO, KMC Telecom

Information concerning the activities of the Diversity Committee can be reviewed at the Committee's Web site <http://www.fcc.gov/DiversityFAC>.

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