STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN KEVIN J. MARTIN

Re: Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act and Broadband Access and Services (ET Docket No. 04-295)

Enabling law enforcement to ensure our safety and security is of paramount importance. Last August, the Commission took an important step forward by concluding that VoIP and facilities-based broadband Internet access providers have CALEA obligations, giving law enforcement the necessary tools to keep pace with rapid technological change. Today’s Order provides further clarity to carriers and other new technology service providers regarding the implementation of their law enforcement obligations.

The Order we adopt today is, as we forecast last year, a second step toward implementing CALEA obligations. We address important issues under CALEA such as cost recovery, compliance processes, and enforcement, providing further clarity for entities subject to CALEA to continue to work toward full CALEA compliance. I remain committed to ensuring that these providers take all necessary actions to incorporate surveillance capabilities into their networks in a timely fashion. Further we will continue to work to address and overcome any challenges that stand in the way of effective lawful electronic surveillance.