



NEWS

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

News media Information 202 / 418-0500
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830
TTY 202/418-2555
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
<ftp.fcc.gov>

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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NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS
Rick Chessen: 202 418 2000
Rudy Brioché: 202 418 2300

**JOINT STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONERS MICHAEL J. COPPS
AND JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN IN RESPONSE TO FCC'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF
LOCALISM HEARING WITH ONLY ONE WEEK'S NOTICE**

“Tonight’s Public Notice doesn’t bode well for the future of the Commission’s localism and media ownership proceedings. Over two weeks ago, we agreed to clear our calendars for the possibility of a localism hearing in Washington on Oct 31st. But neither we nor the public received any confirmation that the hearing would occur until tonight—just 5 business days before the event. This is unacceptable and unfair to the public. And it makes putting together an expert panel nearly impossible.

“Is the Commission serious about allowing the public to participate in the agency’s decision-making? Or is the goal to be able to claim that hearings have been held, even if the public has not had a chance to fully participate?”

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