



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).

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STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE ON AGREEMENT BY THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN AND THE CABLE INDUSTRY TO FIGHT CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

FCC Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate issued the following statement on today's announcement:

"Today's announcement is good news for America's families. This partnership constitutes a ground-breaking step toward protecting children in the online world – just as in the offline one -- and I applaud the work of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and National Cable and Telecommunications Association.

With the proliferation of internet crimes but especially child pornography that continues to threaten our children, now more than ever it is critical that every segment of society contributes to the solution. Many parents still do not realize that the "virtual world" our children inhabit is actually a very real world and we must protect them as they travel the cyberspace highways of today.

This agreement, supported by 45 Attorneys General, takes an important step in that direction, giving cable operators who provide internet service the tools to effectively guard against the proliferation of child pornography on their servers, and help build a barrier to protect children from unlawful content. With the information provided, cable providers will have critical access to lists of child pornography websites identified by Center experts so that those sites can be purged from their servers, material can be reported, and offenders duly referred to law enforcement for punishment. I applaud this type of voluntary partnership, and I encourage all cable operators to take advantage of this data to protect the children and families that use their networks."

I again commend the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the cable industry for their vision and commitment to protecting our country's most valuable resource – our children."