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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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March 10, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Office of the Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

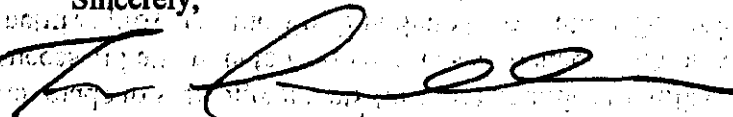
I have been contacted by several counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia regarding an issue pending before the Commission concerning NextGen 911 services. The Pittsylvania County Department of Emergency Management, the Martinsville-Henry County Communications Center, the Franklin County E9-1-1 Communications and the Patrick County E9-1-1 Office are asking for our assistance to encourage prompt resolution of pending arbitration proceedings involving interconnection agreements with incumbent telecommunications providers in the area.

Since May 2007, efforts have been made to seek agreements for these counties to utilize NextGen 911 services. After unsuccessful attempts to resolve issues associated with provisioning advanced 911 services by a competitive provider, the Virginia State Corporation Commission (VSCC) was asked to step in and resolve the issue. Ultimately the VSCC decided to defer the matter to the FCC where the proceedings have remained unresolved for 18 months.

In your testimony last year before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, you recognized that it is important for the FCC "to respond to public safety communications' needs" and "to work toward helping our country's first responders deploy 21st century technologies in support of their operational requirements." While there are many pressing issues facing the Commission, as a matter of public safety, I respectfully encourage the Commission to resolve the pending arbitration proceedings in a timely manner.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Tom Perriello
Member of Congress

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