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

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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NEWS MEDIA CONTACT

Robert Kenny: (202) 418-2668 Email: robert.kenny@fcc.gov

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU TO HOLD WORKSHOP/WEBINAR ON CONTRABAND CELL PHONE USE IN PRISONS

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (Bureau) today announced it will hold a workshop/webinar to discuss methods for combating the use of contraband cell phones in prisons. The workshop/webinar will be conducted in partnership with the National Institute of Justice and the Association of State Correctional Administrators. The event will be held on Thursday, September 30, 2010 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET in the Commission Meeting Room (TW-C305).

The use of cell phones by prisoners to carry out criminal enterprises is a significant problem and demands effective and prompt remedies. This workshop/webinar will discuss technologies currently available and in use to combat contraband cell phone use in prisons, as well as the legal constraints and policy concerns relating to cell jamming and other interfering technologies. Discussion will focus on available technologies and ensuring that they are operated in accordance with the law and without jeopardizing public safety or the lawful use of cell phones by the public, including calls to 9-1-1. The session will also address possible solutions, including previous tests and pilots, as well as a discussion of a recently deployed managed access system. A detailed agenda will be made available in the near future.

This event is designed to encourage public interaction, whether through in-person attendance or via the web. The workshop/webinar will be open to the public; however, in-person admittance will be limited to the seating available. Those individuals who are interested in attending this event in person or via WebEx must pre-register on-line at http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/event-registration.html. Those who pre-register will be asked to provide their name, title, organization affiliation, and contact information. Individuals may also contact Deandrea Wilson at Deandrea.Wilson@fcc.gov or via phone at 202-418-0703 regarding pre-registration. The deadline for pre-registration is Tuesday, September 28, 2010.

Those who wish to participate in the webinar via WebEx will need to log in to the workshop at http://fccevents.webex.com no earlier than 12:45 p.m. ET the day of the workshop. In addition, audio/video coverage of the meeting will be broadcast live with open captioning over the Internet from the FCC's web page at www.fcc.gov/live. The FCC's webcast is free to the public and does not require pre-registration.

Those who watch the live video stream of the event may also email event-related questions to <u>livequestions@fcc.gov</u>. Depending on the volume of questions and time constraints, the panel moderators will work to respond to as many questions as possible during the workshop.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please include a description of the accommodation you will need. Individuals making such requests must include their contact information should FCC staff need to contact them for more information. Requests should be made as early as possible. Please send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau: 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Susan McLean at (202) 418-7868 or by email: Susan.McLean@fcc.gov.

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