



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> 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).

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 7, 2011**

**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:  
Joshua Cinelli at (202) 418-2000**

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS  
ON THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT'S  
DECISION ON MEDIA OWNERSHIP**

“This decision is a huge victory for the millions of Americans who have gone on record demanding a richer and more diverse media. The Third Circuit has brought into clear focus the shortfalls of two previous FCCs on media ownership and their lackluster performances in encouraging more minority and female ownership of our broadcast outlets.

“I am pleased that the 2008 newspaper-broadcast cross-ownership rule, which would have opened the door to more consolidation and less news, has now been returned to the Commission. The rule and the process that brought it forth were highly inimical to media democracy.

“It is clear from this decision that those previous Commissions abdicated their responsibility to consider diversity of ownership and diversity of viewpoint when they wrote their flawed rules. The Third Circuit underlines the need for better process and analysis in the forthcoming but overdue 2010 Quadrennial Review. I only hope that Report will be based upon the kind of specific, accurate, hard data the Court is looking for and that it will be inspired by an awakened appreciation of the need for the FCC to get serious—after all these years—about diversity and justice for America’s minorities and women. That’s why I have been pushing so hard for the completion of in-depth studies that are needed to better inform our decisions and to help new diversity rules survive any court challenges they may face.

“A special tip of the hat is due to the consumer, advocacy and public interest groups that worked so diligently and well to guide their case through the court process. Their work is never done, but this brings one chapter to a significant conclusion.”

## FCC ##