



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 19, 2011

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2305 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

Thank you for your letter regarding inmate calling services and the related rulemaking proceeding pending before the Commission. The Securus Petition involves a service marketed for a monthly fee to inmate families called ConsCallHome. An inmate's family subscribing to that service receives a phone number local to the prison. When the inmate calls the local number, ConsCallHome uses a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) router to route the call from the local number to the family's home number even if it is outside the local calling area. By using this methodology, inmate families pay the set-up charge for the call and any charges for a local call, and do not incur long distance charges.

The Securus Petition requests the Commission to rule that services like ConsCallHome are a call diversion scheme, which Securus is entitled to block pursuant to Commission precedent. This Petition raises complex factual questions and legal issues that may have security implications for the public. Commission staff is reviewing the record that has been compiled and has been meeting with interested parties to obtain a better understanding of the information submitted to the Commission. Please be assured that the Commission is working as expeditiously as possible to address the questions raised in this proceeding.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski", is written over a horizontal line.

Julius Genachowski