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3RD DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,
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0803

Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC, 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to inquire about the status of WC Docket No. 09-144, Securus Petition for Declaratory Ruling. It is my understanding that this petition has been before the FCC for some time and that the FCC has not yet acted on the petition.

As the former Chair and current Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, I am aware of the importance of continued communications during an inmate's incarceration between the inmate and his or her family and supporters in assisting the inmate to reenter society successfully. Moreover, studies have demonstrated that a lack of familial contact increases the chances of recidivism. The FCC's action on this petition would have a substantial impact on communication between families and loved ones who are incarcerated.

Accordingly, I would like to know whether the FCC has a timetable for consideration and action on the petition. I request that you provide me with a response to my letter as soon as possible.

I look forward to your response and thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Rashage Green in my office at 202-225-8351 or at Rashage.Green@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
Member of Congress

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn