



NEWS

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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).

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**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL
ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU REPORT
“IMPACT OF THE JUNE 2012 DERECHO ON COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS
AND SERVICES”**

“This past July I asked that the Commission investigate the communications failures spanning from the Mid-Atlantic to the Midwest in the wake of the Derecho. Too many of us were left without communications and could not reach 9-1-1. That is simply unacceptable. We have a duty to find out what went wrong and to apply those lessons to make our networks more resilient.

“The report released today by the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau details the serious service breakdowns both during and after the storm that the staff uncovered in our networks. Tragically, many of these were avoidable interruptions involving a lack of back-up power to central offices or failures of the service providers’ monitoring systems. As a result of the staff’s efforts, some of these specific problems have already been corrected. But our work is not done. We must stay vigilant and make sure that what happened resulting from the Derecho does not happen in other parts of the country. Carriers should test their networks and ensure that plans are in place in case of an emergency. It is time for an honest accounting of the resiliency of our nation’s network infrastructure in the wireless and digital age. Today’s report is a good first step.”

– FCC –

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