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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI ON THE DEPARTURE OF JAY LENO FROM *THE TONIGHT SHOW*

After 22 years of hosting *The Tonight Show*, Jay Leno is about to sign off for the last time. *The Tonight Show* is an American institution, and like Johnny Carson before him, Jay has become one of the most recognizable faces of American broadcasting. Whether he was directing barbs at Presidents, Hollywood stars, or occasionally the FCC, Jay's humor connected each night with millions of Americans across our country. Last February, I had the pleasure of seeing that connection firsthand when I attended a taping of *The Tonight Show*. I wish Jay all of the best in his future endeavors and congratulate Jimmy Fallon on assuming *The Tonight Show* mantle.