



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission**  
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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. Cir. 1974).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI  
ON THE PASSING OF JOEL KAUFMAN**

I am deeply saddened by the recent passing of Joel Kaufman, FCC Associate General Counsel and Chief of the Administrative Law Division. Joel devoted most of his professional life to public service at this agency, including many years in the Office of General Counsel. It was in that Office that I and almost every member of my staff had the privilege of working with and getting to know him. With his administrative law acumen and encyclopedic recall of precedents, Joel personified the phrase “institutional memory.” More importantly, he was a great man and a good friend. Whether I was up or down, he always had a kind word and a warm smile. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Debbie, and his family. Rest in peace, Joel—I will miss you.