

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN**

Re: Rules and Policies Regarding Calling Number Identification Services – Caller ID; Waiver of Federal Communications Commission Regulations at 47 C.F.R. § 64.1601(b) on Behalf of Jewish Community Centers, CC Docket No. 91-281

Sixty years ago, nine African American students made history when they entered the doors of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. In the days following September 25, 1957, it was reported that threatening phone calls were received nightly in the homes of these history-making students.

What if Caller ID existed then and the identities of the perpetrators of these threatening phone calls were quickly shared with law enforcement personnel? Maybe, I choose to think through a current day lens that it would have made a difference. Unfortunately, even with advancements in technology, law enforcement personnel continue to face challenges with identifying and thwarting threatening telephone calls. This was evidenced earlier this year by the telephoned bomb threats made against Jewish Community Centers (JCCs) across this nation.

So today, the Commission acts on a bipartisan basis to ensure that when a threatening call is made, security and law enforcement personnel can quickly access blocked Caller ID information. By aligning our definition of a threatening call with the standard set in the Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA), we enable a narrowly tailored exemption of our rules. Specifically, we establish that Caller ID information can only be provided to law enforcement when such a phone call “conveys an emergency involving danger of death or serious physical injury to any person requiring disclosure without delay of information relating to the emergency.”

I am grateful for the work of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau for responding to the concerns initially raised by Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer and following through with today’s Order.