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For Immediate Release

**CHAIRMAN PAI CONVENES MEETING TO DISCUSS
COMBATTING CONTRABAND WIRELESS DEVICES
IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

WASHINGTON, February 7, 2018—Today, Chairman Ajit Pai convened a stakeholder meeting to address the serious threats posed by the use of contraband wireless devices in correctional facilities nationwide. After the meeting, Chairman Pai released the following statement:

“The illegal use of wireless devices in prisons is a major threat to the safety and welfare of correctional facility employees, other inmates, and the public. This must change, and fast.

“The FCC can’t meet this difficult challenge alone. I’m grateful to our federal partners at the Justice Department and Commerce Department, state correction officials, solutions providers, wireless carriers, and public safety experts for their participation in this important discussion.

“Our goal in convening this meeting was to bring together a diverse group to determine the most effective, affordable, and safe ways to address this problem—that is, to stop the threat of contraband cellphones without causing harm to legitimate wireless users. Today’s attendees showed a willingness to take active roles in helping us find a path forward. I’m particularly pleased that the wireless industry committed to taking on a more meaningful role. For instance, they’ve shown a willingness to work with government officials to test possible technological solutions and to participate in a task force that will continue today’s conversation with aggressive but achievable deadlines.

“The bottom line is that we made some progress, but all of us have much more work to do. I’m committed to actively working with all stakeholders going forward to combat this public safety threat.”

For more information on the FCC’s actions on this topic, please visit <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/bureau-divisions/mobility-division/contraband-wireless-devices>, GN Docket No 13-11, or contact the ombudsman at combatcontrabanddevices@fcc.gov.

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