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| ***FCC - News from the Federal Communications Commission***  **Media Contact:**  Michael Scurato, (202) 418-2083  michael.scurato@fcc.gov  **For Immediate Release**  **COMMISSIONER STARKS ANNOUNCES NEW STAFF**  WASHINGTON, July 22, 2019—Today, Commissioner Geoffrey Starks announced the appointment of Alisa Valentin as his Special Advisor. The following statement can be attributed to Commissioner Starks:  “I’m excited that Alisa is joining my team.  She brings a strong background of leadership on the issue of internet inequality and, as a native of South Georgia, has personal experience with the impact of the digital divide on rural Americans, particularly in communities of color.  I look forward to benefiting from her insights and working with her in the days ahead.”  Ms. Valentin joins Commissioner Starks’s office from Public Knowledge, where she was a Communications Justice Policy Fellow, focusing on broadband deployment and access issues.  Previously, Ms. Valentin served as a legislative fellow with the office of Congresswoman Yvette Clarke (D-NY) and an intern in FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn’s office.  Ms. Valentin holds a Ph.D. from Howard University in Communications, Culture and Media Studies, as well as a Master of Science in Journalism from Northwestern University and a B.S. in Telecommunications from the University of Florida.  ###  **Office of Commissioner Geoffrey Starks: (202) 418-2500**  **ASL Videophone: (844) 432-2275**  **TTY: (888) 835-5322**  **Twitter: @GeoffreyStarks**  **www.fcc.gov/about/leadership/geoffrey-starks**  *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).* |