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**For Immediate Release**

**COMMISSIONER STARKS ANNOUNCES HBCU PRESIDENTS’ ROUNDTABLE**

WASHINGTON, February 11, 2021 *—* On Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 2 p.m. ET, FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks will virtually host his second HBCU Presidents’ Roundtable to discuss what solutions need to be implemented to ensure students, faculty, staff, and surrounding communities of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) get connected to affordable, reliable broadband during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The policies necessary to bridge the digital divide must center the most marginalized, including Black communities who have been disproportionately impacted by the health crisis. Commissioner Starks hosted his first HBCU Presidents’ Roundtable in May 2020 featuring eight HBCU Presidents and leaders. This upcoming event will convene leaders of Delaware State University, Howard University, Morehouse College, and Tennessee State University. This panel discussion will be moderated by Dr. Dominique Harrison who serves as the Director of Technology Policy at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

The event will be live streamed via Webex. Attendees can access the event via [this link](https://fccevents.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=fccevents&service=6&rnd=0.3335392825632906&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Ffccevents.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26%26%26EMK%3D4832534b000000047c92d4cf8625e86e8435eeb190b1d3900447692672f0ffdc87e53287e4eab8da%26siteurl%3Dfccevents%26confViewID%3D185973291380387450%26encryptTicket%3DSDJTSwAAAAQpV_YgYTJ2kvpzB2WjCv4xYdYNwa2fUx7hfDXAoEV9hg2%26).

**Moderator:**

* Dr. Dominique Harrison, Director of Technology Policy at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

**Confirmed Panelists:**

* Dr. Tony Allen, President of Delaware State University
* Dr. Wayne A.I. Frederick, President of Howard University
* Dr. David A. Thomas, President of Morehouse College
* Dr. Glenda Glover, President of Tennessee State University

For additional information about the roundtable, please contact Alisa Valentin from the Office of FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks at (202) 418-2500 or Alisa.Valentin@fcc.gov.

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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).*