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For Immediate Release

**FCC COMMISSIONERS GEOFFREY STARKS AND BRENDAN CARR TO
CHAMPION BROADBAND AND 5G WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AT
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 25, 2023—Federal Communications Commission Commissioners Geoffrey Starks and Brendan Carr will visit Petersburg, Virginia tomorrow for a broadband and 5G workforce training event at Virginia State University, a public historically black college (HBCU). Developed by the Wireless Infrastructure Association in partnership with VSU for students in the colleges of engineering and business, the training will feature two educational sessions covering wireless and fiber infrastructure fundamentals and a tour of an on-campus wireless tower. Commissioner Starks and Commissioner Carr will participate in a fireside chat on related policy matters as part of the program.

“Building networks that reach every American is a central challenge of our generation. In that challenge lies opportunity—not just for the newly connected, but also those who will do the connecting,” **said Commissioner Geoffrey Starks**. “The truth is that our success here depends on a strong pipeline of skilled Americans who can design, build, maintain, and secure our networks. And as I’ve long said, a workforce that will connect every community in America should represent every community in America. HBCUs like Virginia State University are a key part of the solution.”

“America’s tower techs, lineman, and other 5G workers are the backbone of this country’s broadband builds. Their work is vital to getting more Americans online and extending our 5G leadership,” **said Commissioner Brendan Carr**. “The training being offered at Virginia State University and other technical schools across the country also provides students with a pathway to rewarding careers and good-paying jobs that can benefit their families and communities.”

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