

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. McDOWELL**

The Applications of Tribune Company, Transferors and Sam Zell, et al., Transferees, For Consent to the Transfer of Control of The Tribune Company and Applications for the Renewal of License of KTLA(TV), Los Angeles, California, et al.,

I am pleased to support the transfer of control of the Tribune Company to a new team headed by Sam Zell. I am also pleased that today's Order gives Tribune's new owners the opportunity to keep their combined newspaper-broadcast properties.

Approving this transaction allows the new owners to breathe new life into Tribune's newspapers and broadcast properties. Tribune's readers, viewers and listeners will benefit from its strengthened and more efficient news-gathering operations. Allowing for continued cross-ownership of the company's newspapers and broadcast stations furthers the Commission's statutory duty to promote competition, diversity and localism by invigorating a voice that might otherwise fade. Our Order today also allows Tribune to compete against a growing chorus of new media voices in the information, opinion and entertainment market place that do not live, and would not have developed, under a multi-platform cross-ownership ban.

I thank the Chairman for bringing this matter to a vote this week, and I thank the Media Bureau staff for their hard work on this proceeding.