

**STATEMENT OF
FCC COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN**

Re: *Service Rules for the 698-746, 747-762 and 777-792 MHz Bands, WT Docket No. 06-150; Implementing a Nationwide, Broadband, Interoperable Public Safety Network in the 700 MHz Band, PS Docket No. 06-229; Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules, WP Docket No. 07-100.*

Communications difficulties, during September 11th and Hurricane Katrina, made it clear that we should do everything in our power to develop an advanced communications system that meets our Nation's public safety needs. While Congress is actively reconsidering how best to address spectrum in the D Block, I am glad that our Commission is moving forward and taking important steps to develop the framework for the first, nationwide, interoperable broadband network for public safety.

The Further Notice takes a comprehensive approach, to identify issues that should be addressed, in order to develop a nationwide public safety broadband network that will not only be truly interoperable, but also reliable, secure, and advanced. I am especially pleased to see, that the Further Notice focuses on issues, which if not properly addressed, could result in interoperability gaps in the nationwide network. Those issues include ensuring interconnection with narrowband operations in legacy networks, and promoting greater coverage, performance, and quality of service requirements. I understand that staff carefully considered the input of public safety in our discussion of the coverage requirements. I am confident that the public safety jurisdictions, proudly represented here today, will continue to stay engaged, throughout these proceedings.

I am also glad that the Further Notice seeks comment on how best to interconnect with Next Generation 9-1-1 networks. These 21st Century 9-1-1 networks will permit the transmission of emergency messages, through various media types such as text, photos, and video, to 9-1-1 centers. If we want to develop the most advanced public safety system, then we should ensure that it can leverage the vast technological benefits the new NG-9-1-1 networks will offer.

I strongly support this Order and Further Notice, and applaud Admiral Barnett for his leadership and Jennifer Manner for her resiliency. I also wish to thank the other members of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, who worked on the Further Notice, for presenting such a thorough item.