STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN

Re: Accessible Emergency Information, and Apparatus Requirements for Emergency Information and Video Description: Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, MB Docket No. 12-107; Video Description: Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, MB Docket No. 11-43

As we continue to meet our deadlines and objectives in implementing the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act, I once again applaud the staff of the FCC and our industry counterparts for yet another win.

For far too long, Americans who are blind or visually impaired were at a severe disadvantage when it came to accessing and responding to emergency notifications transmitted over the television airwaves. But because of today's action, those alerts previously delivered in a visual-only configuration will now also be made available in an audio format. Ensuring that the video equipment used by those who are blind and visually impaired is fully capable of transporting timely and important messages is critical, and I'm also extremely pleased that we have completed another significant step in our video description rulemakings.