STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER GEOFFREY STARKS

Re: Implementing Section 503 of RAY BAUM'S Act, WC Docket No. 18-335; Rules and Regulation Implementing the Truth in Caller ID Act of 2009, WC Docket No. 11-39.

I've always said that when it comes to robocalls, we need to have an "all-of-the-above" approach. Whether by wielding our regulatory power, informing and empowering consumers, providing carriers and other companies with new tools to address the problem, or faithfully implementing direction we receive from Congress – this is a big enough problem that we truly have to do it all.

Today's item, in my view, faithfully implements RAY BAUM'S Act giving the Commission additional tools to target harmful caller ID spoofing. Specifically, I am pleased that the Enforcement Bureau will now have greater ability to target harmful calls coming from outside the United States and reach spoofing using a wider range of services. We know that a significant portion of robocalls come from outside of this country and having the ability to track down bad actors in other countries and hold them accountable is critical. Today's action is a positive step.

I am thankful for the hard work of the Wireline Competition Bureau on this item, and look forward to seeing how my old home, the Enforcement Bureau, takes advantage of the new tools at its disposal.