STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER GEOFFREY STARKS

Re: In the Matter of Implementation of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012; Establishment of a Public Safety Answering Point Do-Not-Call Registry; Enhancing Security of Public Safety Answering Point Communications, CG Docket No. 12-129, PS Docket No. 21-343.

Every day, Public Safety Answering Points offer millions of Americans support and assistance in moments of crisis. These are precious seconds, and we cannot have PSAP phone lines tied up by robocalls. Because protecting PSAP operations from unwanted and unlawful robocalls is essential, I am pleased to approve today's Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and begin the process of updating the Commission's approach. Through this FNPRM, we will solicit feedback on new methods to protect PSAPs—addressing both the security concerns that arose from the Commission's earlier approach and opportunities to take advantage of new call blocking technology. I thank the team in the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau and all the Commission staff who have been working hard on this issue for many years, and I look forward to reviewing robust comments.