

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER GEOFFREY STARKS**

Re: 911 Fee Diversion, PS Docket No. 20-291, New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008, PS Docket No. 09-14

Ensuring that a modern, effective 911 system stands ready to assist Americans during a crisis is one of the Commission's most important responsibilities. Both Congress and the Commission have long recognized that 911 fees should serve 911 purposes and have worked to combat fee diversion. Recent legislation, adopted as part of the 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, extends and strengthens those efforts by directing the Commission to define and deter 911 fee diversion. I thank the staff of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau for their hard work quickly preparing this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in response to that statute, and I look forward to reviewing a robust record on these important issues.