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APPLE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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September 11, 2000

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
455-12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ultra-Wide-Band
ET Docket 98-153

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing in response to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rules Making on ultra-wideband radio frequencies.

As a member of the California Fire Service for over 20 years, and Fire Chief for the Apple Valley (California) Fire Protection District, I am very intrigued with the potential advantages that the use of low power, ultra-wide band may have to enhance public safety.

The use of this technology may offer an incredible advantage to rescue workers attempting to locate and free trapped victims of natural and human caused disasters including earthquakes and fires. Victim survival rates in these types of emergencies will undoubtedly be increased by giving rescue workers every advantage technology can offer.

I can attest first-hand that trying to locate trapped and missing persons is time consuming. In emergency situation, seconds truly count. It is incumbent upon governments at all levels to embrace the advancement of technology that have public safety applications.

I encourage the FCC to move forward in making a decision to allow the advancement of this technology in a manner that will not interfere with other vital communications.

Thank you very much for the FCC's consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS L. QUALLS
Fire Chief

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