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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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JUN 25 2002

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band	)	**WT Docket No. 02-55**
	)	
Consolidating the 900 MHz Industrial/Land Transportation and Business Pool Channels	)	

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to Section 1.46 of the Commission's rules, the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. (APCO); the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); the International Association of Fire Chiefs, Inc. (IAFC) and International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA); the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC); the Major County Sheriffs' Association (MCSA); and the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) (collectively, Public Safety Organizations); in conjunction with Aeronautical Radio, Inc. (ARINC); Association of American Railroads (AAR); the Forest Industries Telecommunications (FIT); the Industrial Telecommunications Association, Inc. (ITA); MRFAC, Inc. (MRFAC); the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM); the Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA); Small Business in Telecommunications (SBT); and the Taxicab, Limousine and Paratransit Association (TLPA) (collectively, Private Wireless Coalition) and Nextel Communications, Inc. (Nextel) hereby request a 30 day extension of time for the reply comment period in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the above-referenced proceeding.[1] All

[1] *See* Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band and Consolidating the 900 MHz Industrial/Land Transportation and Business Pool Channels, *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, WT Docket No. 02-55 (rel. Mar. 15, 2002).

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of the Petitioners have been actively involved in this proceeding to date, and they or their members will be affected by its outcome.

The Petitioners seek additional time to complete and submit a compromise proposal to the Commission. The Commission recently recognized the benefits of industry compromises in assisting the Commission in its decision-making. Commissioner Abernathy specifically offered the following statement following the adoption of a compromise solution in a proceeding transferring 27 MHz of spectrum from government to non-government uses,

> "[t]he medical and utility telemetry communities privately crafted a solution that advances each of their interests – a job often better done by the parties than by government. There is no question that mutual resolution of their private interests greatly assists the Commission in assessing the broader public interest."[2]

The public safety community, the private wireless community and Nextel are likewise seeking an industry-wide solution to the interference concerns at 800 MHz. To meet this end, we have initiated joint conversations and believe we may have a possible compromise proposal. Additional time will be necessary, however, for the parties to more fully develop the proposal and to communicate with their respective memberships and each other to ensure that the possible proposal is acceptable to as wide a cross-section of affected parties as possible.

Therefore, we believe the Commission and the public interest would best be served by extending the reply comment period by 30 additional days. As noted in ITA's first extension request, "careful consideration should be given to the protection of public safety systems at 800 MHz. The significant impact on the public safety, private wireless, and commercial industries as a result of this proceeding, as well as the volume of comments, is such that an extension of time

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[2] *See*, Amendments to Parts 1, 2, 27 and 90 of the Commission's Rules to License Services in the 216-220 MHz, 1390-1395 MHz, 1427-1429 MHz, 1429-1432 MHz, 1432-1435 MHz, 1670-1675 MHz,

is warranted."[3] We believe an additional 30 days will allow all interested parties, including the Petitioners, ample time to supply the Commission with a thoughtful compromise proposal.

Given the timeframe involved and the upcoming Independence Day holiday period, we further recommend that the Commission act expeditiously on this request. We applaud the Commission for seeking a remedy to the interference experienced by public safety systems at

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and 2385-2390 MHz Government Transfer Bands, WT Docket No. 02-08, FCC 02-152, *Separate Statement of Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy* (rel. May 24, 2002).

[3] *See* Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band and Consolidating the 900 MHz Industrial/Land Transportation and Business Pool Channels, *Request for Extension of Time,* WT Docket No. 02-55, filed by the Industrial Telecommunications Association, Inc. (May 13, 2002).

800 MHz and look forward to working with the Commission to shape the future of public safety, private wireless, and commercial communications in the band.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date: June 25, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jeremy Denton, do hereby certify that on the 25th day of June 2002, I forwarded to the parties listed below a copy of the foregoing Request for Extension of Time by ARINC, AAR, APCO, FIT, ITA, IACP, IAFC and IMSA, MCC, MCSA, MRFAC, NAM, NSA, Nextel, PCIA, SBT, and TLPA via hand delivery:

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