



Capt. William

**State of Florida
DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES**

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0500

FRED O. DICKINSON
Executive Director

November 24, 2003

Mr. Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
Room 8-B201
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket Number 02-55 (800 Megahertz "Consensus Plan")

Dear Chairman Powell:

The Florida Highway Patrol is concerned about the increasing interference experienced in the 800 MHz band of the radio spectrum used by public safety from commercial wireless communications systems. The communications system utilized to support all state law enforcement officers in Florida has already suffered interference as noted in the comments filed to the board on May 6, 2002, by the State of Florida, State Technology Office.

Interference with public safety communications systems is on rise throughout the country as commercial wireless systems grow. The added channel traffic and proliferation of cell sites in the 800 MHz band greatly increases the potential for interference with public safety communications. Interruption of mission critical communications due to interference jeopardizes the safety of our public safety personnel and the citizens and visitors of the state of Florida.

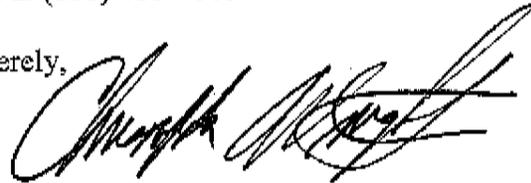
The Florida Highway Patrol supports the 800 MHz "Consensus Plan" as we feel that it is the best solution to resolve the current situation, while simultaneously providing much-needed additional spectrum to the public safety community.

We appreciate your interest in addressing this problem and request you and your fellow commissioners to act expeditiously to realign the 800 MHz spectrum per the "Consensus Plan" with the best interests of our public safety community in mind. We urge the Commission to culminate these proceedings so that any financial impact to public safety agencies is minimized, if not avoided altogether.

Mr. Michael J. Powell
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If we can provide additional information regarding this issue, please contact us at (850) 488-4885.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher A. Knight". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "K".

Colonel Christopher A. Knight
Director
Florida Highway Patrol

CAK:sw