



Littleton Police Department

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John M. Kelly
CHIEF OF POLICE

Matthew J. King
LIEUTENANT

December 16, 2003

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

RE: Docket 02-55

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a public safety official in Massachusetts, I would like to bring to your attention an important issue that deeply impacts this state and our country as a whole. The issue is public safety radio interference – a problem in serious need of a solution. Public safety communications systems and commercial wireless operations are located on adjacent and intermingled channels in the 800 MHz spectrum band. The problem is that the technologies used by public safety and commercial wireless entities are mismatched with one another when they are located on channels close to each other. The result: hazardous and risky interference, which causes distorted and jumbled communications and prevents our public safety officials from doing their job.

There is a plan currently under consideration before the Federal Communications Commission that realigns the current cluttered licensing of 800 MHz systems into separate blocks of spectrum for public safety and cellular wireless carriers. This plan will virtually eliminate public safety interference, provide additional spectrum to public safety and offer a future platform for communications networks that are needed to protect our communities all at no cost to Massachusetts residents or the American taxpayer.

The plan is known as the Consensus Plan and is the only proactive and comprehensive solution to this treacherous problem. Implementing the Consensus Plan would not cost taxpayers any money. As a public safety professional, I express my support for the Consensus Plan and strongly urge you and your agency to quickly approve this practical pro-active solution.

Your kind attention to this matter is greatly appreciated, I would like to thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chief John M. Kelly
Littleton (MA) Police Department
978-952-2300

cc: The Honorable Edward Kennedy, US Senate
The Honorable John Kerry, US Senate
The Honorable Martin Meehan, US House of Representatives
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission