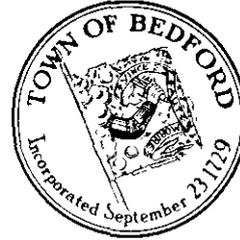


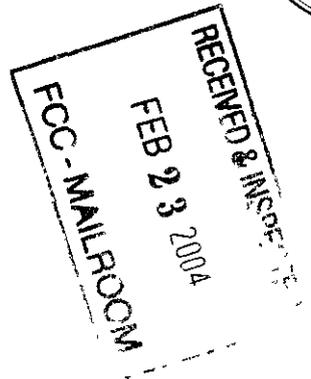
TOWN OF BEDFORD
BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01730



POLICE DEPARTMENT

James G Hicks, *Chief of Police*

2 Mudge Way
Bedford, MA 01730-2136
Phone 781-275-1212
Fax 781-275-9800



February 12, 2004

Secretary Marlene H Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S W
Washington, D C. 20554

Re: WT Docket # 02-55

Dear Secretary Dortch,

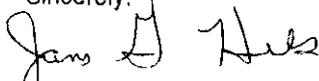
As Chief of the Bedford Police Department, I have dedicated my life to serving my community. The Bedford Police Department, comprised of 26 sworn officers, serves more than 12,000 people on a daily basis. Celebrating its 275th anniversary, Bedford continues to be a clean, safe, and well-rounded suburban town with much to offer. My department believes Bedford residents deserve guaranteed protection in the most efficient and comprehensive manner as possible.

In order to provide consistent service to our citizens, all emergency operations must run smoothly. Due to the need for precision in law enforcement and rescue missions, it is deeply disconcerting to hear some departments throughout the United States have been struggling with a communications problem that inhibits officers from hearing and communicating with each other on their mobile radios.

First responders have come together to champion a comprehensive solution called The Consensus Plan and the Bedford PD would like to add our support. Hundreds of locations are affected by interference throughout the United States every year and it is frightening to think lives could be lost because of this communications problem, a problem that can be solved. The fully funded Plan will eliminate interference while providing public safety with necessary additional bandwidth for future multi-jurisdictional capabilities. The Consensus Plan is the solution public safety needs.

I am asking you today, as a fellow public servant, to help first responders by eliminating public safety radio interference. Accept the Consensus Plan immediately and help provide public safety organizations with reliable communications tools to protect our citizens. The problem has plagued first responders long enough, the danger is real, and the solution is before you. Please support the Consensus Plan.

Sincerely,


Chief James G Hicks

CC The Honorable Edward M Kennedy
The Honorable John Tierney

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