



# HARVARD POLICE

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Edward D. Denmark  
Chief of Police

June 16, 2004

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

*WT Docket Number 02-55*

Dear Secretary Dortch,

I have served as a police officer in several small towns in Massachusetts since 1990 when I became a patrol officer in the town of Ayer. After working in Ayer, I moved to Sterling and, in the past month, accepted the position as Police Chief in the Harvard Police Department. This service has provided me with different experiences that have helped me grow as a police officer and Chief. I have come to understand how departments operate internally and in the field, as officers dedicate their lives to protecting communities and helping others.

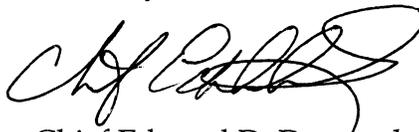
I have recently learned of the serious problem, radio interference that is affecting departments in Massachusetts and throughout the United States. Interference is a dangerous, silent threat that impairs law enforcement officials to easily and reliably communicate. It's particularly worrisome because the problem continues to spread to new communities every day. Communications is a vital part of all departmental activities and this danger must be eliminated. We must be proactive in implementing a solution before tragedy strikes and lives are lost.

The Consensus Plan is the comprehensive solution that is needed to solve this complex problem. The plan will eliminate the problem at its source by realigning the spectrum to give public safety its own dedicated area to operate and will not impose any of the costs on public safety departments, government budgets or taxpayers. Under the Plan, public safety will also gain additional

spectrum. These elements are absolutely crucial to implementing a long-term plan that will meet first responders' needs.

The needed solution is before the Commission and now is the time for action. The Consensus Plan is all-encompassing, fully funded and supported by more than 1,000 public safety departments, agencies and officers. It truly is a "consensus." I hope that the Commission will stand with the public safety community that supports the Consensus Plan and put the solution into action. With lives on the line, we cannot afford to wait any longer. We must be proactive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chief Ed Denmark", written in a cursive style.

Chief Edward D. Denmark