



OFFICE OF
THE COMMISSIONER

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

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Washington, DC 20554

April 10, 2001

Ms. Thera Bradshaw
First Vice President
APCO International
351 N. Williamson Blvd.
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

Dear Ms. Bradshaw:

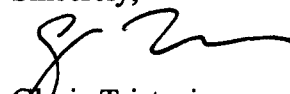
Congratulations on the launch of Project LOCATE. Through APCO's efforts, Project LOCATE will provide a comprehensive approach to assist public safety answering points (PSAPs) prepare for wireless carriers' delivery of life saving location information as part of wireless 911 calls.

PSAPs and emergency telecommunicators are the critical link connecting victims with emergency services. Everyday, more and more Americans are using their mobile phones to call 911 and request emergency aid. Indeed, nearly 115,000 wireless calls are made to 911 daily, and in some communities wireless calls amount to half of all 911 calls. Unlike wireline calls, however, these wireless 911 calls do not provide the location of the caller. As we are all too aware, this lack of location information can lead to tragic results that might otherwise have been averted.

For several years, the FCC has worked with APCO and others to remedy this situation. This coming October wireless carriers will be required to begin providing PSAPs with the location information that can save lives. And today, through the leadership of Project LOCATE, government stakeholders are introducing a nationwide plan to ensure that PSAPs will be ready to put this information to use as soon as carriers meet their obligations.

I commend this initiative to make wireless enhanced-911 location information a reality. More broadly, I wish to thank APCO for its unwavering commitment to the successful deployment of wireless enhanced-911 services. At the FCC we are committed to offering our assistance to ensure that Americans can be located in times of emergency, and I am very pleased to support Project LOCATE.

Sincerely,


Gloria Tristani
Commissioner