

SEPARATE STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN MICHAEL POWELL

Re: Revision of the Commission's Rules To Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems, Request for Waiver by Cingular Wireless LLC, Sprint Spectrum L.P. d/b/a Spring PCS, Verizon Wireless, AT&T Wireless Services, Inc., Nextel Communications, Inc.

I am disappointed and unsatisfied with the progress we have made, thus far, on Phase II E911 rules. I know and respect that carriers have made concerted strides in this area, but those efforts must be re-doubled. It goes without saying that there is a new sense of urgency around using mobile phones as important safety devices. They have become indispensable tools for calling for help and for delivering help.

Thankfully, we are only at the beginning of the implementation of this process and not at the end. I am committed to reaching that end with full and unqualified success. Today, we accept revised implementation plans from some of the major carriers. We initiate enforcement investigations with regard to others. All these decisions are designed to pursue single-mindedly one objective: the full availability of enhanced 911 by the original deadline established by the Commission. Given that this service can save lives, I trust that the carriers, the manufacturers and public safety authorities will work tirelessly to get this service to people as soon before that deadline as possible. It is not good enough to go for a gentleman's "C." This test requires an "A+" effort.

I look forward to working with my colleagues, the public safety community, the carriers and their suppliers, Congress and other governmental agencies, including the Department of Transportation, on exploring ways to ensure and facilitate the successful nationwide deployment of E911.