



October 31, 2019

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Meeting

ET Docket No. 14-165, Amendment of Part 15 of the Commission's Rules for Unlicensed Operations in the Television Bands;
GN Docket No. 14-166, Spectrum Access for Wireless Microphones;
GN Docket No. 12-268, Television Incentive Auctions

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, October 29, 2019, representatives of the Performing Arts Wireless Microphone Working Group, including Laurie Baskin, Director of Research, Policy & Collective Action, Theatre Communications Group; Brandon Gryde, Dance/USA and OPERA America; Najean Lee, The League of American Orchestras; and Kevin Erickson, Future of Music Coalition, met with a number of staff from the Wireless Bureau including Paul Malmud, Blaise Scinto, Stephen Buenzow, and staff from the Office of Engineering & Technology including Julius Knapp, Rodney Small, Ira Keltz, Paul Murray and Hugh Van Tuyl. The Working Group was joined by Michael Lewan, The Recording Academy, for an additional meeting with Erin McGrath legal advisor to Commissioner Michael O'Rielly.

The Performing Arts Wireless Microphone Working Group is an informal coalition of performing arts entities whose members use wireless microphones and backstage communications devices as well as provide wireless services to hearing impaired patrons in providing performances to the public. Members include: Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York, The Association of Performing Arts Presenters, Dance/USA, The Educational Theatre Association, The Future of Music Coalition, The League of American Orchestras, The National

Alliance of Musical Theatre, OPERA America, The Recording Academy, and Theatre Communications Group.

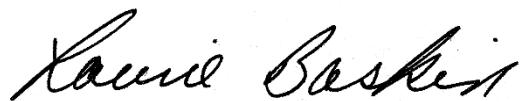
In both meetings, we discussed the ongoing need of professional and educational performing arts entities for interference-free usage of their wireless microphones in serving the public. There are three uses for wireless devices in performance: on-stage amplification, back-stage communications, and services to hearing impaired patrons. All of these uses affect the quality of performances that paying audiences expect, as well as safety of performers, stagehands and audiences.

The performing arts group distributed and discussed previously submitted Reply Comments filed on October 16, 2017 in support of the Commission's proposal to expand Part 74 license eligibility to include persons and organizations that can demonstrate the need for professional, high-quality audio and have the capability of providing it through conscientious use of wireless microphones. The group also distributed and mentioned previously submitted Reply Comments filed on June 21, 2019 expressing concerns about Microsoft Corporation's Petition for Rulemaking and that its desire to increase power and mobility for White Space devices could cause increased levels of interference to wireless microphones.

The performing arts group discussed with FCC staff its plans to further develop a more clear definition of performing arts groups that should be eligible for a Part 74 license that could aid the Commission in considering further expansion of eligibility.

The Working Group members appreciate the ongoing efforts of the Commission to protect performing arts wireless microphone users in providing high quality services to the public. We look forward to ongoing conversations and appreciate the expertise and time of FCC staff on October 29th. We would be pleased to work with Commission staff to make this possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie Baskin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laurie Baskin
Director of Research, Policy & Collective Action
Theatre Communications Group