August 24, 2006

Chairman Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: File Nos. SES-LFS-20050826-01175; SES-MFS-20051122-01614; SES-STA-20060307-00374; SES-STA-20060310-00419; SES-LFS-20050930-01352; SES-MFS-20060118-00050; SES-STA-20060308-00388; SES-STA-20060313-00430; SES-LFS-20051011-01396; SES-STA-20060314-00438; SES-MFS-20051207-01709; SES-STA-20060307-00372; SES-LFS-20051123-01634; SES-STA-20060316-00454; SES-MFS-20051202-01665; SES-STA-20060307-00373; SES-LFS-20060303-00343; SES-STA-20060315-00445

Dear Chairman Martin,

As Director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety in Tennessee, I am charged with the job of making sure that our state's highways are as safe as possible. One of the most important parts of that effort is working to preserve life on our highways no matter the circumstances.

To that end, we are not only concerned with the physical safety of our highways, but also the ability of our first responders to respond quickly to emergencies and save lives. As you likely know, one of the best ways we can ensure efficient response times to accidents on our highways is to ensure that our first responders are equipped with the technology they need to react quickly and offer assistance in any emergency situation.

Tennessee has seen firsthand, the destruction brought by tornados and other powerful storms. Our highway safety offices know that dangerous weather conditions and highway safety do not go hand in hand. Making matters worse, in some cases, our ability to communicate via standard cell phone technology is undone by these storms, making the job of saving lives on our highways and getting to people in need all the more difficult.

As is the case with most states, Tennessee's highways run through some remote and rural areas where communications can be a challenge at any time, especially in the event of a natural disaster. Satellite technologies can give our first responders the reassurance that no matter where they are on our state's highways or the conditions outside, they can do their jobs effectively.

Our ability to use the latest satellite technology for communications, however, is faced with several obstacles that I believe the FCC should address. The satellite spectrum that communications companies use, the L-Band, is allocated inefficiently. This means that the spectrum blocks needed for newer technologies are not available and that these technologies cannot be implemented without danger of creating interference. Also, I

understand that a dispute between companies over loaned spectrum space has also delayed the introduction of new satellite services.

By addressing these critical issues, the FCC can help us accomplish our goal of saving lives on the highways of Tennessee. Please review the spectrum assignments for satellite communications companies, reallocate the spectrum more efficiently and help these companies resolve disputes over loaned spectrum. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kendell Poole

CC: Commissioners Michael J. Copps, Jonathan S. Adelstein, Deborah Taylor Tate, Robert M. McDowell; Governor Phil Bredesen; Senator Bill Frist; Senator Lamar Alexander