



Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association



National Asian Peace Officers Association



National Latino Peace Officers Association



National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives



Women in Federal Law Enforcement

December 15, 2011

The Honorable Jay Rockefeller
Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science & Transportation
508 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchinson
Ranking Member, Senate Committee
on Commerce, Science & Technology
508 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman, House Committee on Energy
and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Waxman
Ranking Member, House Committee
on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rockefeller, Ranking Member Hutchinson, and Chairman Upton, and Ranking Member Waxman:

The undersigned leading law enforcement membership organizations – Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA), National Asian Peace Officers Association (NAPOA), National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA), National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), and Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE) – encourage your committees of jurisdiction to reach agreement on public safety legislation for final passage this year. Specifically we seek legislation that allocates D Block (10 MHz of spectrum within the 700 MHz band) to public safety, while providing adequate funding for construction of a 20 MHz nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network for our nation’s first responders. Allocation of this spectrum is important to our members, the law enforcement community, and all Americans, ensuring the safety of our nation.

As law enforcement leaders representing diverse communities, the allocation of D Block and the commitment of funding for the Public Safety Broadband Network will ensure that a robust telecommunication spectrum is dedicated, and has the resources to adequately address the growing needs of our society. Law enforcement and public safety agencies across the nation have implemented and deployed technology that is dependent on the spectrum being available. It is critical that we work together to make the nation’s first interoperable public safety broadband network.

While we understand that there are differences to be resolved between the House and Senate bills, we urge you to not forfeit the opportunity to pass legislation this year. We encourage you to support this legislation because it is vital to ensuring effectiveness in law enforcement and public safety. We support and urge you to enact this legislation.

Sincerely,

Tony Cox
National President, Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association

Rudy Tai
President, National Asian Peace Officers Association

Edwin Maldonado
National President, National Latino Peace Officers Association

Jiles Ship
National President, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Margaret M. Moore
President, WIFLE Foundation, Inc. and Executive Director, Women in Federal Law Enforcement, Inc.