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ACCESS TO CAPITAL AND TELECOM POLICY CONFERENCE

JULY 19, 2018

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Speaker Biographies



Honorable Angela Angel

**Delegate, Maryland General Assembly
(25th District);
National Corresponding Secretary,
National Organization of Black
Elected Legislative (NOBEL) Women
#MDAdvocateAngel**

Delegate Angela M. Angel was elected to the Maryland General Assembly in 2014 to represent the 25th District of Prince George's County. A seasoned attorney who spent years prosecuting child abuse and neglect for the City of New York, she is a fearless advocate for the often overlooked and proposes legislation that addresses gaps in the law that leave women and children impoverished and unprotected. Delegate Angel is committed to advocacy on behalf of women and children because she knows first-hand what it means to struggle to make hard decisions to provide for your family.

In 2017, Delegate Angel was appointed as the Regional Director of Region 2 for the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (N.O.B.E.L. Women) and Co-Chair of the Energy, Environment and Transportation committee for the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL). She is an active member of First Baptist Church Glenarden and lives in Upper Marlboro, MD with her five children.



Deb Bennett

**Training Consultant &
Director of Apprenticeship
Wireless Infrastructure Association
#DebBennett @WIAorg
#ApprenticeshipWorks**

Debra "Deb" Bennett is a senior level consultant with over 24 years' experience in wireless telecommunications. With considerable expertise across multiple industry segments – site acquisition, construction, engineering, compliance, quality and project/program management. Deb is particularly adept in the area of developing and deploying policies, practices, procedures, systems and tools related to project management. For the past 2 ½ years, Deb has supported WIA in a wide variety of training and workforce development activities, including the design and launch of the Telecommunications Education Center (TEC). In March of 2017, WIA was named National Sponsor for the Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program (TIRAP). As Director of Apprenticeship, Deb has the full responsibility for the day-to-day administration and operation of the apprenticeship program. Deb is the Director of Apprenticeship at The Wireless Infrastructure Association. WIA serves as the National Sponsor for TIRAP-The Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program.

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Tyrone Brown
Consulting Counsel, Wiley Rein LLP
Former FCC Commissioner
#TyroneBrown @FCC #FCC

Ty serves as consulting counsel for Wiley Rein LLP. He is a former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Commissioner and widely respected entrepreneurial strategist, having represented a range of telecom clients. An expert in regulatory issues affecting telecom providers, his practice focuses on matters before the FCC, on communications start-ups, and on communications public policy.



Honorable G. K. Butterfield
Member
U.S. House of Representatives
@GKButterfield

Congressman G. K. Butterfield is a life-long resident of eastern North Carolina. In 1988, Congressman Butterfield was elected as Resident Superior Court judge. In this role, he presided over civil and criminal court in 46 counties of North Carolina. For two years, he served on the North Carolina Supreme Court by appointment of the governor. Butterfield retired from the judiciary after 15 years of service and successfully ran for Congress. He was elected to serve the First District of North Carolina in the U.S. House of Representatives in a special election on July 20, 2004, where he continues to serve today. Butterfield serves in the Democratic leadership as Chief Deputy Whip and is the immediate past Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus. He sits on the influential Committee on Energy & Commerce as the 4th most senior Democrat on the Health Subcommittee. In addition, he serves as a member of the Subcommittees of Communications and Technology and Energy.

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Brendan Carr
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@BrendanCarrFCC @FCC #FCC

Brendan Carr was nominated to serve as a Commissioner of the FCC by President Donald J. Trump and was confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate on August 3, 2017. He was sworn into office on August 11, 2017. Commissioner Carr brings to the position over a dozen years of public and private sector experience in technology and communications law and policy. Most recently, Commissioner Carr served as the General Counsel of the FCC. In that role, he served as the chief legal advisor to the Commission and FCC staff on all matters within the agency's jurisdiction. Previously, he served as the lead advisor to FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai on wireless, public safety, and international issues. Before that, he worked as an attorney in the FCC's Office of General Counsel, where he provided legal advice on a wide range of spectrum policy, competition, and public safety matters.



Honorable James Clyburn
Member
U.S. House of Representatives
@Clyburn

James E. (Jim) Clyburn is the Assistant Democratic Leader, the third-ranking Democrat, in the United States House of Representatives. When Jim Clyburn came to Congress in 1993, he was elected co-president of his freshman class and quickly rose through leadership ranks. He was elected Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1998 and Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus in 2002. Three years later he was unanimously elected Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, and when Democrats regained the House majority in 2006, Congressman Clyburn was elevated by his colleagues to House Majority Whip. As a national leader he has championed rural and economic development. Many of his initiatives have become law.

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Mignon Clyburn
Former Acting Chairwoman and
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@MignonClyburn @FCC #FCC

Mignon Clyburn was sworn in for her first term as commissioner on August 3, 2009; sworn in for a second term on February 19, 2013; and served until June 6, 2018. She also served as Acting FCC Chairwoman from May 20, 2013 through November 4, 2013. While at the FCC, Commissioner Clyburn was committed to closing the digital divide. Specifically, she was an advocate for Lifeline Modernization, which assists low income consumers defray the cost of broadband service, championed diversity in media ownership, initiated Inmate Calling Services reforms, emphasized diversity and inclusion in STEM opportunities, and fought to preserve a free and open internet. Prior to the FCC, she spent 11 years as a member of the sixth district on the Public Service Commission (PSC) of South Carolina. Prior to the PSC, Clyburn was the publisher and general manager of her family-founded newspaper for 14 years, the Coastal Times, a Charleston-based weekly newspaper that focused primarily on issues affecting the African American community.



Brandi Colander
Head of External Relations, D&I,
Charter Communications
@BColander @CharterGov

Brandi Colander is the Head of External Relations for Charter Communications, supporting their Diversity & Inclusion team. In this role, she is responsible for strategic outreach, external relations, stakeholder engagement and philanthropic initiatives related to Charter's Diversity & Inclusion strategy. Prior to joining Charter she served in the Obama Administration as a Deputy Assistant Secretary at the United States Department of the Interior where she advanced regulations, led strategic initiatives, managed government relations and engaged diverse stakeholders. Colander began her career in public service as the Deputy General Counsel for the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Prior to joining the Executive Office of the President, she was an attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in New York City.

Speaker Biographies



Melody Cooper
President

Midway Broadcasting, WVON- Chicago
@WVONMelody @WVON1690
#MidwayBroadcasting #MelodyCooper

Melody Spann Cooper is Chairman of Midway Broadcasting Corporation, a best-in-class African-American owned media boutique whose properties include radio and interactive platforms. The two properties combine to provide niche programming to Chicago's thriving Black and Hispanic populations. As Chairman of Midway Broadcasting Corporation, she joined an elite list of America's female broadcast owners after purchasing the company's controlling interest in 1999. Midway Broadcasting properties include WVON 1690AM, the oldest Black-oriented radio station in Chicago. With its urban talk format, the station is lauded as a leading source of information and community empowerment. In 2007, Spann Cooper spearheaded the corporation's expansion with the development of WRLL 1450AM, Chicago's Home for Hispanic Independent Broadcasters. WRLL is committed to preserving the authentic voice and culture of Chicago's growing Latino target market. In addition to the company's radio properties, Midway Broadcasting Corporation has established itself as a premier event and integrated marketing company.



Dr. Jayne Cubbage
Assistant Professor

Bowie State University
@CubbageJayne @BowieState

Dr. Jayne Cubbage is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communications at Bowie State University where she teaches courses in the Graduate Program in Organizational Communication. She has previously taught graduate and undergraduate level courses in broadcast journalism and mass communication courses including media literacy, broadcast news writing, mass communication theory and television production. Her research interests include media audiences of color, media literacy and social networking. She is working on the upcoming edited volume "Media Literacy in Higher Education Environments" to be published by IGI Global in 2018.

Speaker Biographies



William Michael Cunningham
Founder at Creative Investment Research;
Managing Partner at National
Crowdfunding Services
@CreativeInv #WilliamMichaelCunningham

William Michael Cunningham received his MBA in Finance and a Masters in Economics from The University of Chicago. He is currently a Capstone student advisor in the Real Estate Program at Georgetown University. A strong advocate for the integration of human values in finance, he involves his students in developing new ways to combine social values and investing. His professional interests include environmental, social and governance investing, socially responsible investing and community development investing, and his current projects include writing books on crowdfunding, and writing about the impact of the financial crisis on communities of color. Mr. Cunningham serves as Managing Partner for National Crowdfunding Services and owns Creative Investment Research.



Donna Epps
Vice President of Public Policy and
Strategic Alliances Verizon
@DonnaEppsVZ @Verizon
@VerizonPolicy

Donna Epps is Senior Vice President for Public Policy and Strategic Alliances for Verizon Communications. In this role, Ms. Epps is responsible for managing Verizon's federal public policy efforts, including policy development and issues management. Ms. Epps also manages Verizon's relationships with strategic third party organizations, including those representing various different consumer interests. In addition to her work at Verizon, Ms. Epps serves as a Trustee on the National Urban League Board and on the National Council of La Raza Corporate Advisory Board. She is a former trustee of the Federal Communications Bar Association Foundation.

Speaker Biographies



Ari Q. Fitzgerald

Partner

Hogan Lovells

@ HoganLovells @MMTCOnline

#AriFitzgerald

Ari Fitzgerald provides strategic, legal, and policy advice on a wide range of communications and spectrum policy issues to some of the world's largest and most dynamic communications network operators and equipment manufacturers, as well as a diverse assortment of industry trade associations and investors. Before joining Hogan & Hartson (now Hogan Lovells), he was a legal advisor to former FCC Chairman Bill Kennard, as well as deputy chief of the FCC's International Bureau. He also worked as a legal advisor in the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel, where he advised the White House, executive agencies, and the U.S. attorney general on constitutional and federal statutory interpretation matters. Ari started his legal career as a law clerk to the Honorable H. Lee Sarokin, U.S. district judge, and worked for several years after his judicial clerkship as legal counsel to former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley. Today, Ari serves on the board of directors of Crown Castle International, a large, publicly owned operator of towers and other communications infrastructure, and on the advisory board of several private technology companies and policy advocacy organizations. He also serves on the board of several nonprofit entities, including as vice president of the Yale Law School Alumni Executive Committee, secretary of the Multicultural Media and Telecommunications Council, president of the Duke Ellington Fund, and as an advisory board member of Catholic Charities Legal Network.



Maurita Coley Flippin

President and CEO,

Multicultural Media Telecom &

Internet Council

@ MauritaColey @MMTCOnline

Maurita Coley joined MMTC's executive team in 2012, bringing over 25 years of experience in the media, communications, and entertainment industries to assist MMTC in reshaping its mission and vision to improve diversity and inclusion in a new digital economy. Previously, Coley served as Vice Chair of MMTC and as Executive Director of Capital Area Asset Builders, a nonprofit leader in asset-building and financial literacy and economic empowerment programs. She is a former partner with the Davis Wright Tremaine and the Cole, Raywid & Braverman law firms, where her practices included representing cable television programmers and operators, and minority venture capitalists. She is a former law and programming executive with the BET Cable Networks.

Speaker Biographies



Debbie Goldman

**Telecommunications Policy Director,
Communications Workers of America**

#DebbieGoldman @CWAUnion

Debbie Goldman is Research Director and Telecommunications Policy Director at the Communications Workers of America where she is responsible for the union's research program in support of collective bargaining, organizing, and public policy. She also coordinates the union's Speed Matters campaign promoting affordable high-speed Internet for America. The Communications Workers of America represents 700,000 working men and women in telecommunications, customer service, media, airlines, public service and manufacturing. Ms. Goldman has advocated before the Federal Communications Commission, the U.S. Department of Justice, state regulatory commissions, and the U.S. Congress on a broad range of communications policy issues, including broadband policy, media ownership, universal service, and mergers and acquisitions. Ms. Goldman is currently working towards a PhD in History (University of Maryland). She also holds MA Degrees in Public Policy (University of Maryland) and Education (Stanford University). She earned her B.A. Magna Cum Laude from Radcliffe College (Harvard University) in 1973, majoring in History.



Alex Hoehn-Saric

Chief Counsel

**Communications and Technology
Subcommittee, House Energy and
Commerce Committee Democrats**

#AlexHoehnSaric @EnergyCommerce

Alexander Hoehn-Saric recently joined the House Energy & Commerce Committee Democrats as chief counsel. Previously, he served as Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, for Charter Communications. In this role, he worked on federal regulatory matters. Prior to joining Charter in September, 2013, Mr. Hoehn-Saric served as Policy Director for Federal Communications Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel advising her on media and technology issues. Mr. Hoehn-Saric previously worked at the Department of Commerce as the Deputy General Counsel for Strategic Initiatives. He also worked for the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee as Senior Counsel for Chairmen Rockefeller and Inouye. While at the Commerce Committee, Mr. Hoehn-Saric worked on the subcommittees responsible for oversight of the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission. Mr. Hoehn-Saric received a B.A. from the University of Chicago and a juris doctor degree from UCLA Law School.

Speaker Biographies



Hank Hultquist

**Vice President, Federal Regulatory,
AT&T**

@HankHultquist @ATTPublicPolicy

Hank joined AT&T in 2004. He represents AT&T at the Federal Communications Commission on a number of issues including Broadband and Internet policy, Video and Media Policy, Intercarrier Compensation, and Universal Service. He is a member of the Board of Directors and of the Wireless Communications Association International and serves on the North American Numbering Council. Prior to joining AT&T, he was with MCI for eight years. Hank is a graduate of the George Mason University School of Law and the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. He resides in Arlington, Virginia with his wife and two children.



Victoria Jeffries

**Vice President and Assistant General Counsel,
Public Policy, Univision**

#VictoriaJeffries @Univision

Victoria Luxardo Jeffries is the Vice President & Assistant General Counsel for Public Policy at Univision Communications Inc. in Washington, DC. In this role, she represents and advises Univision on policy matters arising in federal and state legislatures, agencies, and executive branches. Her previous experience includes working at a law firm, a technology media company, and a federal agency. She received her JD from Emory University School of Law, and her BA in International Relations from Tufts University.

Speaker Biographies



Dr. Ronald Johnson

Chair and Treasurer

MMTC Board of Directors

#DrRonaldJohnson @MMTCOnline

Ronald Johnson's company, Solutions4Change, has aligned millions of procurement dollars between the telecommunications industry, minority businesses, and HBCUs. As the Commissioner/Secretary of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, Johnson has assisted with the placement of billions of dollars in industrial revenue bonds. He has served as a Governor's appointee to the Southern Technology Council, as Rector of Virginia State University's Board of Visitors, and as Vice Chairman of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Johnson also serves on MMTC's Board of Directors as Treasurer.



Derek Khlopin

Senior Advisor, Office of the Assistant

Secretary, NTIA, US Department of Commerce

@DKhlopin @NTIAgov

Derek Khlopin advises the Assistant Secretary and NTIA Administrator principally on matters involving spectrum policy and management. Additionally, Mr. Khlopin acts as the liaison between NTIA's Office of the Assistant Secretary and its Office of Spectrum Management. Prior to NTIA, Mr. Khlopin most recently led the North America government affairs activities for Nokia Solutions and Networks (now Nokia Networks), with responsibility for developing and implementing the company's regulatory and policy strategy. He represented the company in the U.S. before the Congress, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Executive branch, and other government agencies, as well as in industry forums. Previously he was the director of regulatory and industry affairs for Nokia. Mr. Khlopin has also headed the regulatory and legal advocacy efforts of the Telecommunications Industry Association and its information and communications technology member companies. He started his career as an attorney in the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau of the FCC.

Speaker Biographies



Erwin Krasnow

**Partner, Garvey Schubert Barer;
Vice Chair, MMTC Board of Directors
@ Ekrasnow @GSBLaw @MMTCOnline**

Erwin G. Krasnow has been described as a “dean of the Washington communications bar” by *Legal Times*, a “super lawyer of communications” by *American Film* magazine and the “guru of communications law” by the *Broadcast Cable Financial Journal*. Krasnow, a former General Counsel of the National Association of Broadcasters, serves as a Vice Chair of MMTC and as Washington Counsel to the Media Financial Management Association. He was the Founding Director and Vice Chair of Broadcast Capital, Inc., a minority broadcast investment company. Krasnow is Co-Chair of MMTC’s mentoring program and was inducted into MMTC’s Hall of Fame in 2004.



Nicolaine Lazarre, Esq.

**President, MMTC Broadcasting; General
Counsel and Senior Vice President, National
Urban League
@Nicolelazarre @NatUrbanLeague
@MMTCOnline**

Nicolaine M. Lazarre provides legal counsel and strategic guidance on the risk management, compliance, transactional, litigation and intellectual property activities of the National Urban League. As Senior Vice President, Special Projects, she plans and executes the implementation of special initiatives for the President’s office. Ms. Lazarre has advised and represented companies on transactions, corporate structure and corporate governance since 1999. Prior to joining the National Urban League, she served as an associate in the structured finance groups of top tier international law firm Sidley Austin LLP and Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP. Ms. Lazarre received her Bachelor of Science in Political Science from the University of Houston and her Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center (1999).

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Barbara Lee
Member, U.S. House of Representatives;
Co-Chair, Congressional Black Caucus
Diversity Task Force; Co-Chair,
Congressional Asian Pacific American
Caucus Health Care Task Force
@RepBarbaraLee

In 1998, Congresswoman Barbara Lee was elected to serve California's 9th congressional district (now the 13th) in a special election. In 2001, Congresswoman Lee received national attention as the only Member of Congress to oppose the authorization for the use of military force (AUMF) in the wake of the horrific events on September 11th. The Congresswoman believed this AUMF would become a blank check for endless war. As of 2013, this authorization had been used more than 30 times to engage in military action without Congressional oversight. Congresswoman Lee is working to repeal this blank check and restore Congress's constitutional oversight to matters of war and peace. She was also an outspoken opponent of the Iraq War. Currently, Congresswoman Lee serves on the Budget Committee and the powerful Appropriations Committee, which oversees all federal government spending. She serves on three subcommittees (State and Foreign Operations; Labor, Health and Human Services, Education; and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs) of the Appropriations Committee. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the Pro-Choice Caucus. She is the former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus (111th Congress) and co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus (109th & 110th Congresses).



Ronald Marlow
Vice President for Workforce Development,
National Urban League
#RonMarlow @ NatUrbanLeague
#ApprenticeshipWorks

At present, Ron serves as Vice President for Workforce Development with the National Urban League. In this role, Ron is responsible for the development, delivery and oversight of workforce development programs for which the National Urban League receives funding, and which are delivered by Urban League Affiliates in the local communities they serve. Prior to coming to the National Urban League, Ron served as Undersecretary for Workforce Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In this role, he oversaw the operations of the public workforce system. Ron is committed to community service through volunteer activity. He presently serves on the Board of Directors of Massachusetts Law Reform Institute. He has served on the Boards of: the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council, the Center for Women Enterprise, Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation, and others. He earned his MS in Law, Policy and Society from Northeastern University and his bachelor's degree from The Pennsylvania State University.

Speaker Biographies



DuJuan McCoy
Owner, President, and CEO,
Bayou City Broadcasting
#DuJuanMcCoy
#BayouCityBroadcasting

DuJuan McCoy has over 24 years of local television experience and has built a great career growing small, medium and large market television stations into revenue winners while significantly improving company profitability. His experience includes thirteen years of Television sales management of which ten were as General Sales Manager/Director of Sales in market sizes ranging from #105 to #10. He has worked with small, medium and large ownership groups in different regions of the country, including Capitol Broadcasting, River City Broadcasting, Sinclair Broadcasting and Fox Owned and Operated Television stations and he has successfully managed revenue budgets ranging from \$4 million to over \$130 million annually. In December 2007, Mr. McCoy founded, and became Owner, President and CEO of Bayou City Broadcasting, LLC. In January 2008 his company agreed to purchase seven TV stations from Sage Broadcasting Corp (KXVA-Fox Abilene, KIDY-Fox San Angelo, KIDZ-MyNet Abilene and 4 Class A Stations in Abilene.) With this purchase, Mr. McCoy and Bayou City Broadcasting earned the distinction of being the only African American company to own and or operate a Fox Affiliate in the United States and purportedly the first African American to own and operate a major affiliate in the state of Texas.



Francisco R. Montero
Partner, Fletcher Heald & Hildreth
Member, MMTTC Board of Directors
@FMontero0208 @CommLawBlog
@MMTCTOnline

Francisco "Frank" Montero is one of the Managing Members of Fletcher Heald & Hildreth, specializing in telecommunications, broadcasting, media and technology. Mr. Montero's practice includes FCC regulatory counseling, corporate finance, asset and securities acquisitions, intellectual property, and real estate and commercial transactions. Mr. Montero was an appointed member of the Federal Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age. He served as Director of the FCC's Office of Communications Business Opportunities during the Clinton Administration. While at the FCC, Frank worked extensively with industry, trade associations, financial institutions and governmental agencies to create business opportunities for entrepreneurs, and technology and telecommunications start-ups and was recognized by the Chairman of the FCC for "dedication to bridging the digital divide".

Speaker Biographies



Maureen Murat, Esq.
CEO, Crowdie Advisors
@CrowdieAdvisors

Maureen L. Murat is owner of Crowdie Advisors, LLC, a business consulting firm dedicated to helping local and foreign entrepreneurs and small business form business entities, transact business and obtain financing in the USA via equity crowdfunding and other alternative financing methods. Maureen is passionate about educating minorities, women and especially minority women, about how to make their dreams come true by becoming entrepreneurs. Maureen also has a passion for immigration issues. She has volunteered in legal clinics and serves as a Haitian Creole translator when needed.



Honorable Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner,
Federal Communications Commission
@ MikeOFCC @FCC #FCC

Michael O'Rielly was nominated to the FCC by President Obama on August 1, 2013, and sworn into office on November 4, 2013. Prior to joining the FCC, Commissioner O'Rielly served for three years in the Office of the Senate Republican Whip led by U.S. Senator John Cornyn, most recently as Policy Advisor. He previously served as a Policy Analyst for the Senate Republican Policy Committee, and as Legislative Director in the Office of Senator John Sununu. Prior to his tenure as a Senate staffer, Commissioner O'Rielly served for eight years as a staff member on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Speaker Biographies



Spencer Overton
**President, Joint Center for Political
and Economic Studies**
@SpencerOverton @JointCenter

Spencer Overton is the President of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, and has led the Joint Center since February 2014. Overton is a tenured Professor of Law at George Washington University. He is also a Senior Fellow at Demos, a member of the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African-Americans, and the national chair of public policy for the nation's oldest African-American fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi (the Boule). Professor Overton's academic articles on election law have appeared in several leading law journals, and his book *Stealing Democracy: The New Politics of Voter Suppression* was published and released by W.W. Norton. During Professor Overton's time in the Obama campaign, transition, and Administration (2007-2010), he was a key leader on the Administration's policy efforts. From 2007-2008, he was chair of Government Reform Policy for the Obama presidential campaign, a group of over 150 expert advisers from around the nation. At the beginning of the Obama Administration, he was appointed the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice.



Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman,
Federal Communications Commission
@ AjitPaiFCC @FCC #FCC

Ajit Pai is the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. He was designated Chairman by President Donald J. Trump in January 2017. He had previously served as Commissioner at the FCC, appointed by then-President Barack Obama and confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate in May 2012.

Speaker Biographies



Jacquelyn Puente
Executive Director, External Affairs,
Comcast Corporation
@JackiePuenteDC @Comcast

Jackie Puente is the executive director for external affairs at Comcast, responsible for national partnerships with diverse stakeholders on policy issues that span media, technology, and telecommunications. Throughout her career, Jackie has served as a translator between public, private, and nonprofit entities, and an advocate to empower communities to leverage media, technology, and digital literacy for economic growth.

Prior to joining Comcast, Jackie advised Fortune 100 company clients on a range of technology, telecommunications, tax, and utilities related issues. Jackie has a strong reputation for building coalitions on high profile and complex issues combining her passion for media strategy communications, business development, and regulatory affairs at the state, national, and local levels.

Jackie proudly serves as an advisor and board member for many national advocacy and philanthropic organizations including the Hispanic Leadership Fund, the George Washington University's Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute, the US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Senior Executive Corporate Advisory Board, as well as the American Association of People with Disabilities Technology Forum. She lives in Washington, DC with her family.



Steven C. Roberts
President and Founder
Roberts Broadcasting Company
#StevenRoberts
#RobertsBroadcastingCompany

Steve Roberts serves as President and Principal of The Roberts Companies, a privately held multi-faceted business organization that has created and managed over sixty companies within the past thirty years in real estate projects. Roberts grew a Sprint digital-affiliated television network in the Midwest into the largest private cellular and broadcast tower real estate portfolio in the U.S. Roberts has served on six public boards in the banking, manufacturing and telecommunications sectors, and serves on the FCC Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age. Roberts is a 2014 inductee into MMTC's Hall of Fame.

Speaker Biographies



Aaron Saunders

Founder and CEO

Inclusive Innovation Incubator (In3)

@AaronKSaunders @In3DC

@Luma_Lab @C_Innovative

Aaron Saunders is the founder and CEO of Clearly Innovative. He received a Computer Science degree from Ohio Wesleyan University and an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business. Aaron has over twenty years of experience in software and mobile development. Aaron is an expert with developing mobile applications for both Android and iOS platforms. In addition to using the Appcelerator Framework, he has developed applications using Objective-C, Java, the Android SDK, PhoneGap and Ionic. He continues to educate clients about the power of technology and demonstrate the business value it adds to their organizations. Aaron is a thought leader in mobile development and is actively involved with the DC Tech community.



Bishop Steven J. Smith

Executive Director, Public Policy

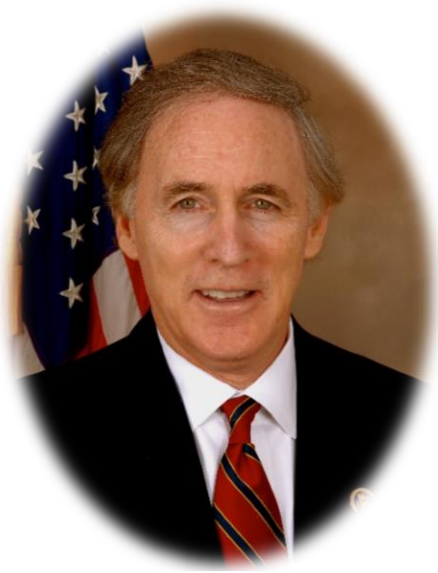
Institute and Media & Telecom Project

Rainbow PUSH Coalition

@IAmStevenJaneil @RPCoalition

Rainbow PUSH's Public Policy Institute and Media & Telecom Project focus on influencing progressive public policy toward political, economic, technological, and social justice for workers, women, and people of color. Bishop Smith previously served as Director of Marketing and Communications for the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore. He has also served as the Senior Pastor of three congregations in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area: Church of the Lord's Harvest, Cathedral of Life, and Summit Point Church. He serves as a Bishop in the Beth-El Churches of Christ and as President of its General Board of Presbyters. Smith is a 2014 recipient of the MMTC Extraordinary Service Award.

Speaker Biographies



Honorable Clifford B. Stearns
Member of Congress Emeritus;
Co-Chair, New Telecom & Internet
Policy Task Force, MMTC
@RepCliffStearns

Hon. Cliff Stearns represented Florida's 6th Congressional District from 1989 to 2013, where he served with distinction for 24 years. He was a prominent member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, having served as Chair of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and as the Republican Leader on the Communications and Technology Subcommittee. Stearns is currently the Executive Director and a member of the International Advisory Council of APCO Worldwide, where he provides recommendations for clients in the telecommunications, Internet, and cybersecurity fields. He is also Co-Chair of MMTC's New Telecom and Internet Policy Taskforce.



Diane Sutter
President and CEO
ShootingStar Inc.
@DSutter01 #ShootingStarInc

Diane Sutter's career has included radio and television station management, overseeing a television and radio station group, and owning and operating television stations. She currently consults for radio and television stations, media companies, financial institutions and other organizations. In addition, she conducts management training and development for companies and organizations as a Gallup-Certified Strengths Coach. Sutter also works with organizations to implement Conscious Capitalism and "Purpose" in their company. ShootingStar Broadcasting is the media company she formed to acquire and operate television and radio stations. The company owned the CBS affiliate in Abilene, TX (KTAB) and MyTV New England (WZMY-TV) in the Boston, MA market.

Ms. Sutter created and developed the Broadcast Leadership Training (BLT) Program for women and minorities sponsored by the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation (NABEF). She serves as the "Dean" of the executive-MBA style, 10-month program to train women and minorities to become broadcast owners and group heads and teaches many of the sessions. The program is in its nineteenth year and has 307 graduates, many of whom have gone on to ownership or have been promoted to "C" suite level positions in the industry.

Speaker Biographies



Rikin Thakker, Ph.D.

**Vice President of Telecommunications and
Spectrum Policy, Multicultural Media
Telecom & Internet Council
@ RikinThakker @MMTCOnline
#ApprenticeshipWorks**

Dr. Rikin Thakker is the Vice President of Telecommunications and Spectrum Policy at Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC). He evaluates MMTC's policy positions and the impact of telecom policy on minorities and women. Prior to MMTC, Dr. Thakker was Research Professor at University of Maryland (UMD), where he led a cross-disciplinary research project which was funded by the NSF (National Science Foundation) under EARS (Enhancing Access to the Radio Spectrum) program. He evaluated impacts of cellular infrastructure and unlicensed spectrum on the utilization of licensed spectrum for mobile broadband. His research findings and simulation model have been well received by the FCC and the NTIA. Dr. Thakker is also one of the co-founders of RF Academics - an initiative started by a group of elite professors to cater to industry's need of quality education and consulting services at corporate speed. He has over 15 years of experience in the field of cellular and wireless communications. He has helped design, deploy and maintain cell sites with 3G and 4G technologies for major cellular operators in the United States. He also advises operators, regulators, OEMs, and vendors around the world on 5G strategies.



Honorable Edolphus Towns

**Member of Congress Emeritus;
Co-Chair, New Telecom & Internet
Policy Task Force, MMTC
@EdTowns**

Hon. Ed Towns represented New York's 10th Congressional District from 1993 to 2013 and previously represented New York's 11th Congressional District. Over the course of his distinguished 30-year career in Congress, Towns brought millions of dollars to a wide range of projects in the Borough of Brooklyn and the City of New York. In 2010, Congressman Towns inaugurated the Congressional Social Work Caucus, providing a platform on the Hill for more than 600,000 social workers throughout the United States who positively impact the lives of the elderly, the disadvantaged, children, and veterans. He is also Co-Chair of MMTC's New Telecom and Internet Policy Taskforce.

Speaker Biographies



S. Jenell Trigg

Member

**Lerman Senter PLLC and
MMTC Board of Directors**

**#SJenellTrigg @LermanSenter
@MMTCOnline**

A former broadcast television sales and marketing executive spanning a sixteen-year advertising career in the Chicago and Baltimore markets, S. Jenell Trigg is a Member of Lerman Senter PLLC and is the Chair of the firm's Intellectual Property and New Technology Practice Group. In addition to her varied practice in the broadcast, wireless, cable, and telecommunications industries, Ms. Trigg specializes in privacy and data security issues, as well as intellectual property concerns, and government regulation of the Internet and new technologies. She is accredited as a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP) through the International Association of Privacy Professionals. Ms. Trigg is also a recognized authority on small and minority telecommunications business issues from an industry, regulatory, and legislative perspective, and works with the FCC's Federal Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age as a subject matter expert and a member of the Funding Acquisition Taskforce.



Hon. Richard "Dick" Wiley

**Former Chairman, Federal
Communications Commission**

**Founding Partner, Wiley Rein LLP
@WileyRein**

Dick, co-founder and name partner Wiley Rein LLP, has received numerous accolades throughout his storied career, including being named a Washington "Visionary" by The National Law Journal, the "most influential media and telecommunications lawyer in the United States" by the International Herald Tribune, one of the top "100 Men of the Century" by Broadcasting & Cable, and the "Father of High-Definition" television by The Globe and Mail. As Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), he fostered increased competition and lessened regulation in the communications field. Dick played a pivotal role in the development of HDTV in this country, serving for nine years as Chairman of the FCC's Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service. He has represented a number of major communications-oriented organizations, including Verizon, AT&T, JP Morgan, Credit Suisse, Newspaper Association of America, Motorola, CBS, Belo, Gannett, Sirius/XM, Emmis, Gray Television, and LG. Dick also is a frequent author and lecturer on telecommunications and information law.

Speaker Biographies



Brent A. Wilkes

**Former National Executive Director, League
of United Latin American Citizens
(LULAC)**

**Member, MMTC Board of Directors
@BrentWilkes @LULAC @MMTCOnline**

Brent Wilkes managed the operations of LULAC, the nation's largest and oldest Hispanic organization. LULAC addresses national policy, legislative advocacy, program development, and resource development in the Hispanic community. Wilkes is widely credited with strengthening LULAC's programs, advocacy efforts, events, and revenue since opening LULAC's National Office in Washington, D.C. in 1996. He also serves as Vice Chair of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, a nonpartisan coalition of major Hispanic national groups. Wilkes was inducted into MMTC's Hall of Fame in 2012.



Sanford Williams

**Director, Office of Communications
Business Opportunities (OCBO)
Federal Communications Commission
#SanfordWilliams @FCC #FCC #OCBO**

Sanford is passionate about faith, family, education, and sports. He is married to Dr. Anastasia Williams and they have three children: Kiara, Sanford, and Nia. Sanford is the Director of the Office of Communications Business Opportunities at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Sanford has worked as an attorney and in various other roles at the FCC since 1999. Sanford has also worked as an attorney at Womble, Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, and taught at Augusta State University in Augusta, Georgia. Sanford is a member of the Virginia Bar and the Georgia Bar. Sanford graduated from Newark Academy in New Jersey in 1983 and then enrolled at Cornell University at the age of 15, where he earned his Undergraduate Degree in Operations Research & Industrial Engineering and an MBA from the Johnson School of Management. He later attended the University of Virginia's (UVA's) School of Law, and earned a J.D. in 1996. At UVA, he was a member of the Virginia Law Review. In 2010, Sanford was elected to serve on the Manassas City (Manassas, VA) School Board, and he was re-elected in 2014.

Speaker Biographies



James Winston, Esq.
**President, National Association of Black
Owned Broadcasters (NABOB)**
#JamesWinston #NABOB

James Winston has been with NABOB since 1982. He leads NABOB's federal government relations and advertising industry outreach efforts and oversees the organization's annual broadcast management conferences. During the 1980s and early 1990s, Winston helped NABOB grow to 250 radio stations and 20 television stations. He also helped create the NABOB Telecommunications Education and Management Foundation, which helps to educate the next generation of broadcast industry leaders. Before co-founding his law firm and joining NABOB, Winston served as Legal Assistant to Commissioner Robert E. Lee at the FCC. Winston is a 2008 inductee into the MMTC Hall of Fame and a 2014 recipient of MMTC's Extraordinary Service Award.