Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

May 22, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

A company called LightSquared is launching a new network that will literally save countless lives in America by making communications capabilities for first responders and others in the public safety community possible at a level we have never had before.

LightSquared is well known to the public safety community (and especially here in Kentucky because of their work with the state on an amort-gratis basis during emergencies before) as an experienced service provider to federal, state and local fire, police, rescue and disaster-relief departments, specializing in on-call mobile satellite communications services, personnel and equipment. (Before undergoing a corporate name change, they were called “sky terra” and did very valuable work with the state in emergency preparedness)

LightSquared provided satellite phones to FEMA after Hurricane Katrina, keeping vital lines of communications open when other telecom services were down. Last year, LightSquared created its Emergency Rapid Response Communications Team program (ERRT), which rapidly deploys to emergency and disaster locations in the U.S. and Canada.

Given the critical need for first responders to have access to reliable, high-bandwidth communications technology, I urge you to do what is necessary so LightSquared can move forward with its plans to upgrade the nation’s wireless broadband capability and allow public safety providers to employ this important technology.

It is my sincere hope that the FCC will listen to officials like myself and other Sheriffs in Kentucky who feel like I do on these critical issues that can mean life or death for our citizens we vow to serve and protect.

Sincerely,

Berl Perdue, Jr.
Clark County Sheriff

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