GPS Technology and implications if it were to be compromised

Date: 07-28-11

To whom it may concern:

As the Search and Rescue Coordinator for King County Sheriff I am very concerned about the potential interference of GPS technology due to LightSquared’s efforts to introduce wireless broadband service.

Our Search and Rescue Emergency Workers respond to approximately 120 Search and Rescue missions a year. Our Emergency workers rely upon GPS technology to locate lost and or injured subjects within the Alpine wilderness of King County.

If GPS were to become unavailable our probability to detect those who are lost, and or injured would drop considerably. Many of our rescued subjects carry cell phones with GPS capability. GPS allows us to focus our limited resources in the area of highest probability.

The testing results were conclusive and demonstrated that GPS reception would be wiped out by LighSquared’s proposed service.

Now that the test results have shown interference to GPS, the FCC shouldn’t allow Light Squared to keep trying out modified versions of its plan to use the spectrum near the GPS band. LightSquared’s operations and GPS are fundamentally incompatible and the FCC should order LightSquared out of that band.

Sincerely,

Detective Kathleen Decker

King County Sheriff Search and Rescue Coordinator

(206) 205-8226