

## ***Advocacy Submits Comments to FCC regarding Concerns of Low-Power TV Stations***

On June 12, 2015 Advocacy filed a notice of *ex parte* meeting with the FCC detailing a meeting on June 11, 2015, where Assistant Chief Counsel for Advocacy Jamie Saloom and Director of Interagency Affairs Charles Maresca met with staff in the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. During the meeting Advocacy staff forwarded the concerns of small Low-Power Television licensees with regard to the upcoming broadcaster incentive auction. In the meeting, Advocacy stressed that the FCC has an obligation to preserve localism and diversity in broadcasting, and expressed concern that the FCC has not yet given the LPTV community sufficient reassurances that those stations who wish to continue broadcasting will be able to do so.

Advocacy highlighted the investments and added value that LPTV owners have made in their communities, and urged the FCC to protect those investments through its auction policy. Specifically, Advocacy recommended that the FCC:

- make vacant channels available post-auction for displaced LPTV and translator stations before expanding unlicensed white spaces;
- allow voluntary channel sharing arrangements to the extent possible, so LPTV stations can continue to broadcast in their existing service areas; and
- use its optimization software to assist LPTV licensees with identifying suitable channels to relocate post-auction.

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