



RCA 2009 Annual Convention

Making Government Advocacy
Work For You

RCA Agenda-Setting Process

- November (Approx.) – Survey RCA Members on Priorities for Upcoming Year
- December or January – G&R Committee Sets Agenda Based on Survey Responses and Political Climate
- RCA Board of Directors Approves Agenda

2009 RCA Advocacy Issues & Status

1) Handset Exclusivity

Comment cycle complete on RCA petition; Awaiting FCC action; Legislation expected

2) Automatic Roaming for Data

Comment cycle complete; Petitions for Reconsideration pending; Awaiting FCC action

3) Universal Service Fund Reform

FCC Notice of Inquiry; Comment deadline 5/8; Reply Comment deadline 6/8

4) Broadband Stimulus Grants

Comment cycle complete for NTIA, RUS & FCC; Awaiting Notice of Fund Availability

Opportunities for Advocacy

● Congress

- Meet with your Senators and Congressmen
- Get to know your Senate and House staffers

● FCC

- File Comments & Reply Comments
- Schedule Meetings with Commissioners in DC

● RCA's Annual Lobby Day

- Learn Effective Strategies for Advocacy
- Advocate RCA's Issues Alongside Other RCA Members

Strategies for Advocacy in Congress

● Congress

- The Committees
- Members and Staff
- Committee Counsel

● Your State(s)

- Other Members of the House
- Your Senators

● Be Visible

- Visits/Email/Calls
- Campaign

Strategies for Effective FCC Advocacy

- Engage the FCC – File Petitions, Comments, Reply Comments, Applications, Additional Advocacy Materials on Matters of Interest/Concern; Schedule In-Person Meetings
- Identify Key FCC Staff -- Who are the Decision Makers? Who will be Influencing the Decision Makers?
- Clearly Identify How the FCC Can Assist – Where Possible, Keep Consumers in Mind
- Know Your Issue Thoroughly – Be Able to Provide Data, Charts, Maps, Specifics to Support Your Position; Know the Communications Act, Relevant FCC Rules and FCC Decisions
- Strength in Numbers: Identify Potential Allies – Even Atypical Ones; Generate Pressure from Your Members of Congress
- Be Tactful, Confident and Persistent

http://www.fcc.gov/ Yahoo! Search

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Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Home Page

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Headlines [Daily Digest](#) | [Daily Business](#)

4/29/09
Statement Of Acting Chairman Copps Before U.S. House Of Representatives, Committee On Appropriations, Subcommittee On Financial Services And General Government.
[Acrobat](#)

4/28/09
Statement of Acting Chairman Copps on U.S. Supreme Court Decision In Fox Indecency Case.
[Word](#) | [Acrobat](#)

4/23/09
FCC Announces Tentative Agenda For May 13, 2009 Open Meeting.
News Release: [Word](#) | [Acrobat](#)

4/22/09
Acting Chairman Copps Announces Membership and Initial Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age.
News Release: [Word](#) | [Acrobat](#)

4/21/09
Consumer Guide, Web Updates Help Consumers Move to Digital TV.
News Release: [Word](#) | [Acrobat](#)

4/20/09
Waiver of BAS Relocation Deadline.
Order: [Word](#) | [Acrobat](#)

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Digital Television (DTV)

Visit DTV.gov THE DIGITAL TV TRANSITION
What You Need To Know About DTV

Commissioners

[Michael J. Copps](#)
Acting Chairman

[Jonathan S. Adelstein](#)
Commissioner

[Robert M. McDowell](#)
Commissioner

[All Commissioners & Press Photos](#)

Bureaus & Offices

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[Consumer & Governmental Affairs](#)

[Enforcement](#)

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http://www.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/EFBoards/systemstatus.cgi?index_t=%2e%2e/%2e%2e/pub/e-file/EFBoards.html

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FCC Electronic Filing & Public Access Systems

Page Tools

consumer complaint process.

[Disaster Information Reporting System \(DIRS\)](#)

The Disaster Information Reporting System is the Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau's Internet-based system for collecting information on the status of communications networks. Wireline providers, wireless providers, broadcasters, and CATV system providers can use DIRS to report this information. This information is essential for governmental situation awareness during a major disaster.

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[Electronic ARMIS Filing System \(EAFS\)](#)

Using the World Wide Web, the general public, members of the industry, and state regulatory agencies, among others, gain access to the [Automated Reporting Management Information System \(ARMIS\)](#) database. This rich online resource contains financial, operational, service quality and network infrastructure data provided by the largest incumbent local exchange carriers as required by Part 43 of the Commission's Rules. Data is obtainable for individual row/column queries, or in selectable preset reports, and may be printed out or saved as an html or ASCII text file.

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[Electronic Comment Filing System \(ECFS\)](#)

The Electronic Comment Filing System is designed to give access to Commission rulemakings and docketed proceedings via the World Wide Web. ECFS will accept electronic comments in FCC rulemakings and docketed proceedings; scan in paper documents; and research, retrieve, and print any documents in the system. ECFS includes data and images from 1992 onward. Before ECFS was available, commenters were invited to file electronic copies of their filings in certain proceedings. A list of these comments is available on our [Comments Page](#). Please note that if you experience difficulty using the main ECFS link, you may use the alternate link instead.

A simplified version of ECFS, called [ECFS Express](#) is also available and is designed specifically with the consumer in mind. ECFS Express focuses on topics most likely to generate consumer interest rather than docket numbers, and requires minimal input by consumers seeking to participate in the Commission's public rulemaking process.

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[Electronic Document Management System \(EDOCS\)](#)

EDOCS lets you search a database of Daily Digest entries for FCC documents posted to the FCC web site since March 1996. EDOCS displays information about documents in three formats: full record, condensed record, and Citator. The full record displays all indexing information contained in the system for each retrieved document, while the condensed format displays an abbreviated version of the same information. The Citator format displays citations to the FCC Record Index, FCC Reports 2nd Series, and the Federal Register. The database contains citations for documents back to 1982. The EDOCS query works with any data element or combination of data elements. Using more search terms will give a more precise result. Presently, the query searches on words that appeared in the Daily Digest title and in the description for each document, not on the full text of each document.

Access to EDOCS is now available via the standard Internet port! This eliminates the requirement that some users had for a special firewall configuration to use EDOCS. The URLs for the Daily Digest home page, for the EDOCS query page, and for individual documents now reflect this port change. Port 8835 is no longer used.

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[Electronic Tariff Filing System \(ETFS\)](#)

The Electronic Tariff Filing System is an Internet based system through which incumbent Local Exchange Carriers submit official tariffs and associated document

http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/ Yahoo! Search

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Federal Communications Commission

Electronic Comment Filing System

FCC > CGB > ECFS Home Page [FCC site m...](#)

Electronic Comment Filing System

Welcome to the Federal Communication Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) pages. ECFS serves as the repository for official records in the FCC's docketed proceedings and rulemakings from the year 1992 onward. Consumers can research, retrieve, view, and print any document in the system, including earlier non-electronic FCC documents that have been scanned into the system.

Tips & Notations

- ECFS will accept filings in the following formats: MS Word 6.0 and higher, MS Excel 4.0 and higher, Word Perfect 5.1 and higher, ASCII Text, and Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF). For more information, please refer to the [online User Manual](#).
- Please do not submit documents with passwords, macros, redlining, or in formats such as read-only. This will prevent your filing from being timely processed and available for public viewing.
- The filing deadline times for comments are as follows: Electronic/email - before 12:00 a.m. midnight, Hardcopy (paper) - by 7:00 p.m. Comments become available throughout each day as they are disseminated.
- ECFS only accepts filings in proceedings with docket and rulemaking numbers. ECFS is therefore unable to accept filings in non-docketed proceedings.
- If the ECFS system is down for an extended period of time immediately prior to a deadline and users are unable to file electronically or via e-mail, the following action(s) should be

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Cover Sheet

1. Proceeding (e.g. 00-221, RM-9920) (required)

2. Mail Correspondence To: (required) Name Law Firm Attorney

3. Name of Applicant/Petitioner (required)

4. Law Firm Name (required if represented by counsel)

5. Attorney Name (optional)

6. Email-id (optional)

7. Mailing Address For Correspondence (required)

8. City (required)

9. State (required)

10. Zip Code (required)

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11. Ex-Parte/Late Filed

 (optional)

12. Document Type (required)

13. File Number (optional)

Please complete **ONE** of the following:

Send Comment Files to FCC (Attachments)

File Description: File:

Select one of these file types or convert your file to one of these types:

OR

Send a Brief Comment to FCC (typed-in)

If you are entering over 70 characters on one line
be sure to press your carriage return to ensure proper line-wrapping.

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 **Federal Communications Commission**

The FCC Acknowledges Receipt of Comments From ...
Rural Cellular Association
... and Thank You for Your Comments

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Your Confirmation Number is: 2009420588830 | |
| Date Received: | Apr 20 2009 |
| Docket: | 96-45 |
| | |
| Number of Files Transmitted: | 1 |

DISCLOSURE

This confirmation verifies that ECFS has received and accepted your filing. However, your filing will be rejected by ECFS if it contains macros, passwords, redlining, read-only formatting, a virus or automated links to source documents that is not included with your filing. Filers are encouraged to retrieve and view their filing within 24 hours of receipt of this confirmation. For any problems contact the Help Desk at 202-418-0193.

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RCA's Annual Lobby Day

- June 9 – 10, 2009
- Washington, DC
- Advocacy Workshop – Afternoon of June 9
- Dinner with Congressional Guest – June 9
- Meetings with Members of Congress –
June 10

RCA's Annual Lobby Day

Tuesday, June 9th & Wednesday, June 10th, 2009
Washington, DC

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

- Advocacy Workshop during the Afternoon
- Dinner with Staff from Congressional Offices

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

- Convene for Breakfast & Break Into Groups
- Meetings with Members of Congress and Staff Throughout the Day