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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 24, 2004

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MB Docket No. 04-207

MEDIA BUREAU ANNOUNCES SYMPOSIUM ON "A LA CARTE" MVPD PRICING

Washington, D.C. - The Federal Communications Commission's Media Bureau will sponsor a symposium on Thursday, July 29, 2004, to examine the provision of a la carte programming services on cable television and direct broadcast satellite systems. The participants will address questions relating to the ability of multichannel video programming distributors ("MVPDs") to provide a la carte offerings to customers on a voluntary basis. The speakers will explore the implications of such offerings for consumer prices, broadcast programming retransmission consent, programming diversity, and MVPDs in rural and small markets. Further details will be released as they become available.

The event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Federal Communications Commission in the Commission Meeting Room at 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. A recording of the symposium will be included in MB Docket No. 04-207.

Open captioning will be provided and other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests should include a description of the accommodation needed, as well as contact information should additional information be required. All requests will be accepted and every effort will be made to fulfill them, although timing considerations may make that impossible in some cases. Send requests via e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov, or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau:

For sign language interpreters, CART, and other reasonable accommodations: 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For accessible format materials (Braille, large print, electronic files, and audio format): 202-418-0531 (voice), 202-418-7365 (TTY).

A live audiocast of the symposium will be available at the FCC's website at www.fcc.gov on a first-come, first-served basis.

Press inquiries should be directed to Suzon Cameron at 202-418-1916.