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**POWELL ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU;
WILLIAM MAHER TO LEAVE FCC THIS FALL,
JEFFREY CARLISLE TO BE NAMED BUREAU CHIEF**

Washington, DC – FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell today announced that Wireline Competition Bureau Chief William Maher is leaving the Commission this fall, and that he intends to name Jeffrey Carlisle to the position of Bureau Chief. Mr. Carlisle will begin serving as Acting Chief on August 9, until his permanent appointment as Chief.

Powell said, “I must regretfully announce Bill Maher has decided to move on from his position as Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau. Bill has served as Bureau Chief for two years and during that time he has made invaluable contributions to the Commission. During his tenure, the Bureau tackled a myriad of issues that will forever impact the telecommunications landscape, including VOIP, access charge reform, e-rate and unbundled network elements. Bill is widely respected for his fairness in addressing these issues and we will miss him greatly.”

Powell said, “I am happy to name Jeff Carlisle to head the Wireline Bureau as Chief at this critical time. He has been a top manager at the Commission for more than three years and is a national expert on Internet and competition policy issues. He is uniquely suited to set the ground rules for the telecommunications marketplace for the 21st Century.”

Carlisle has served as Senior Deputy Chief of the Bureau since June 2001, and was named Co-Director of the Commission’s Internet Policy Working Group by Chairman Powell in November 2003. Before joining the Commission, he practiced law independently representing telecommunications providers and consumers. Prior to that, Carlisle was an associate at the Washington, DC, office of O’Melveny & Myers.

Carlisle received a B.A. in History from the University of California, Los Angeles, an M.A. from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and a J.D. from Boalt Hall, University of California, Berkeley

Maher was appointed Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau in August 2002. He had been in private practice with the firm of Halprin, Temple, Goodman & Maher. Prior to that he served as Associate Administrator, Office of Policy Analysis and

Development, for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1989 to 1994. He previously served at the FCC from 1985-1989 in the Common Carrier Bureau, as Special Counsel for Competitive Issues.

Maher received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame and an S.M. in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After serving as an engineer on the technical staff of Bell Laboratories, he attended Harvard Law School where he received a J.D. in 1984.

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