



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
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February 25, 2004

**COMMISSION TO HOST DISCUSSION OF EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY**
Meeting to Be Held March 25 at FCC Headquarters

Washington, D.C. - The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will convene disability organizations, service providers, government agencies and other stakeholders on March 25, 2004, for a day-long summit to discuss "Emergency Communications and Homeland Security -- Working with the Disability Community." The summit will focus on identifying communications barriers faced by people with disabilities during national emergencies or terrorist attacks and developing strategies for resolving them where possible.

The summit fulfills one of the action items identified on the FCC's Homeland Security Action Plan, announced by FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell on July 10, 2003. Chairman Powell has been invited to address summit attendees and highlight the importance of promoting access to effective communications services by all Americans, particularly in emergency situations.

The event is open to the public and will be held at FCC headquarters, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. Further details regarding this event will be announced in the near future.

Open captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Please include a description of the accommodation needed, providing as much detail as you can, as well as contact information in case additional information is needed. Please make your request as early as possible, and allow at least five days advance notice. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fulfill. Please send a request by 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).

Additional information concerning this meeting may be obtained from Alice Elder, at (202) 418-2168 or alice.elder@fcc.gov, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, TTY 1-888-835-5322, or Janet Sievert, at (202) 418-1362 or janet.sievert@fcc.gov, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, TTY (202) 418-1398.

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