



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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July 18, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

RE: GN Docket No. 13-111

Dear Madam Secretary:

I write on behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the more than 3,000 elected Sheriffs nationwide that NSA represents, to file our Comment on the FCC's proposed rule "promoting technological solutions to combat contraband wireless device use in correctional facilities."

As the FCC notes, "Prisoners in federal, state, and local correctional facilities increasingly use wireless devices to engage in criminal activity while incarcerated, which poses a serious security challenge to correctional facility administrators, law enforcement authorities, and the general public." Sheriffs are typically the chief law enforcement official of their counties and, in addition to their policing and courthouse security duties, operate about 80% of the jails in this country. Accordingly, Sheriffs have a very real, public-safety interest in the FCC's proposed rulemaking.

Sheriffs have learned time and again that inmates will use any means available, including contraband wireless devices, to communicate with other criminals outside the jail, as well as with inmates in the same and other jails and prisons. They will contact witnesses and victims with wrongful intent, and plot and plan criminal enterprises. Moreover, these are regular occurrences in our nation's correctional facilities.

Therefore, on behalf of this nation's Sheriffs, NSA thanks you for the FCC's efforts to identify technologies to combat contraband wireless device use in correctional facilities. Finally, as the experts in jail operations, our Sheriffs encourage you to consult with NSA in developing solutions for this ongoing issue.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron D. Kennard".

Sheriff (ret.) Aaron D. Kennard, Executive Director