

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN KEVIN J. MARTIN**

Re: Implementation of the NET 911 Act, WC Docket No. 08-171

Today, we initiate a proceeding to implement the New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008 (NET 911 Act). Supporting the safety of the public and the needs of our first responders is our highest obligation as public officials. Therefore, I am pleased to take this opportunity to further refine our rules to ensure that the most basic need of the public to call for help by dialing 911 is fulfilled.

As I have said before, anyone who dials 911 has a reasonable expectation that he or she will be connected to an emergency operator; this expectation exists whether that person is dialing 911 from a traditional wireline phone, a wireless phone, or a VoIP phone. Moreover, we need to ensure that our enhanced 911 (E911) rules provide meaningful automatic location information that permits first responders to reliably find callers, even when they are using mobile wireless or VoIP phones.

In the NET 911 Act, Congress affirmed that interconnected VoIP providers must provide 911 and E911 and directed the Commission to ensure that interconnected VoIP providers have the tools they need to provide such service. I support these objectives and look forward to working with my colleagues on these critical public safety issues.