



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

News media Information 202 / 418-0500
TTY 202 / 418-2555
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
<ftp.fcc.gov>

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 8, 2002

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Meribeth McCarrick at (202) 418-0654

WIRELESS BUREAU TO ASSUME ALL REGULATORY DUTIES ASSOCIATED WITH ITFS AND MDS/MMDS SERVICES

Washington, D.C. – As part of the Federal Communications Commission’s agency reorganization, beginning March 25th the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) will handle all regulatory issues related to the Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) and the Multipoint Distribution Service (MDS)/Multichannel Multipoint Distribution Service (MMDS). The Bureau will assume all regulatory duties associated with the services including all licensing and legal matters.

Specifically, ITFS and MDS/MMDS regulatory functions will be handled in the Bureau’s Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. ITFS is allotted 120 megahertz of spectrum in the 2 GHz band. ITFS licensees make extensive use of the spectrum to provide formal classroom instruction, distance learning, and videoconference capability to a wide variety of educational users throughout the nation. MDS/MMDS is allotted up to 82 megahertz of spectrum in the 2 GHz band. MDS/MMDS is a commercial service that has generally been used for the transmission of data and video programming to subscribers. These services were previously administered by the Commission’s former Mass Media Bureau.

Wireless Bureau Contact: Shellie Blakeney at (202) 418-0680 or sblakene@fcc.gov

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