

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL K. POWELL**

Re: Amendment of Parts 2, 73, 74 and 90 of the Commission's Rules to Permit New York City Metropolitan Area Public Safety Agencies to Use Frequencies at 482-488 MHz

This Nation's public safety community faces some of the most challenging times in history as it works tirelessly to protect our citizens and secure our homeland. One of the Commission's highest priorities is to assist public safety, especially first responders, in meeting these challenges by providing them with access to spectrum that can help save lives.

Today's item does just that. The permanent reallocation of Ch. 16 in the New York Metropolitan Area to public safety use will facilitate effective public safety communications, enhance communications between public safety agencies and allow the New York Metropolitan Area public safety community do what they do best—protect the citizens of and visitors to New York.

This Commission will continue to try and meet the needs of the public safety community and use one of our citizens' most valuable public resources—spectrum—to help save lives.