

**STATEMENT OF
JESSICA ROSENWORCEL
RE-NOMINATION TO
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OCTOBER 28, 2015**

Good morning, Chairman Thune, Ranking Member Nelson, and Members of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today for my re-nomination as a Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission.

I joined the Commission more than three years ago. For five years before that, I had the honor of serving this Committee as Senior Communications Counsel. I worked for Senator Rockefeller and Senator Inouye and had the privilege of assisting many of you who continue to serve on this Committee today. As a result, I am well-acquainted with this room and the deliberations of this body. But I can assure you that sitting at this table is humbling.

I want to begin by introducing my family. Sitting behind me is my terrific husband of fifteen years, Mark Bailen. Sitting beside him are our children, Caroline Frances, age eight, and Emmett Joseph, age five. They are our sweetest accomplishment and greatest joy. Though they are not here today, I also would like to note my parents, Elliott and Willa Rosenworcel. They are at home in Hartford, Connecticut. Let me also note my brother, Brian Rosenworcel, who is touring the country as drummer for the band Guster. My parents have the unique ability to claim they have children who are a rocker and a regulator.

It is a tremendous honor to have been re-nominated by the President to continue to serve as a Commissioner at the Federal Communications Commission.

We are in the early days of a communications revolution. Network technologies are reaching further and faster into all aspects of our commercial and civic life. They are transforming the ways we connect, create, employ, educate, entertain, and govern ourselves.

For the Commission, all of this change means humility is required. It also means we must recognize what is time-tested and enduring. That is why I believe the work of the Commission must be guided by four essential values that have informed our communications laws for decades.

First, public safety. Our networks must be available when the unthinkable occurs and we need them most.

Second, universal access. No matter who you are or where you live in this country, for a fair shot at 21st century prosperity you need access to first-rate, modern communications. That means we need policies that foster deployment and adoption in urban areas, rural areas, and everything in between.

Third, competition. Competition increases innovation and lowers prices.

Fourth, consumer protection. Communications services are multiplying. We are getting more value from them than ever before. But the marketplace is also bewildering to navigate. So we should always be on guard for ways to help consumers make good choices.

These values derive from the law. They have informed my work at the Commission. In light of them, I am especially proud of agency efforts to strengthen 911 service which have been informed by my visits with first responders across the country. I am proud of our work to increase access to broadband in our schools and enhance opportunities for digital age education. I believe our spectrum policies—for licensed and unlicensed airwaves—have made our wireless markets competitive, innovative, and strong. Moreover, our spectrum auctions have raised billions for the United States Treasury.

I am also aware there is more work to be done—to bring communications policy into the future. That includes supporting the world’s first spectrum incentive auctions, managing the impact of this transition on our nation’s local broadcasters, and building on our wireless success with the next generation of mobile service—known as 5G. It requires new ideas to spur competition, spark entrepreneurship, incentivize the deployment of new networks, and help bring the benefits of the communications revolution to everyone, everywhere across the country.

If re-confirmed, I look forward to working on these tasks with my talented colleagues and the skilled staff of the agency.

If re-confirmed, I will continue to be guided by the fundamental values in the law.

If re-confirmed, I will continue to respect the priorities of this Committee. I also pledge to continue to listen to you, those with business before the Commission—and above all, the American people.

In closing, Chairman Thune, Ranking Member Nelson, and Members of the Committee thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I look forward to answering your questions.