PRESS STATEMENT OF

COMMISSIONER JAMES H. QUELLO

In Re: Disney - CapCities/ABC

All I can say at this point is that two efficient, exceptionally well managed and public service oriented communications giants are joining forces with Disney acquiring ABC. As long as there is robust marketplace competition the public should be well served. Disney-ABC will have the finances, program resources and economies of scale to better serve the public. They will be well able to compete with other communications giants, such as Time Warner, Viacom-Paramount, GE-NBC, and Fox with their programming interests, as well as a possible upcoming acquisition or merger involving CBS. In addition, large phone companies are acquiring or negotiating for substantial interests in programming ventures, including Nynex and Time Warner. Active competition among these vertically-integrated communications giants is the key to serving the public interest.

There will be multiple ownership and cross-ownership issues to be resolved and the FCC will be required to make sensible decisions that best serve the overall public interest and a robust competitive marketplace.



