

**Remarks By  
Commissioner James H. Quello  
Before the  
Michigan Association of Broadcasters  
Winter Conference, Lansing MI  
February 20, 1991**

I'm always glad to meet with my home state broadcast association. This association and the Michigan congressional delegation, both Democrats and Republicans, launched my FCC career 17 years ago. So I always feel I'm among friends when I come to Michigan broadcast conferences. I hope we can make that friendship a mutual feeling between Michigan broadcasters and the Detroit office of the FCC.

I have always believed more constructive results can be achieved working in a spirit of mutual co-operation between the FCC and broadcasters. After all, broadcasters and the FCC share the same goal of better broadcast service.

**I'd like to recommend a system similar to that which has worked so well in Georgia ... Ten years ago the FCC engineer-in-charge of the Atlanta office met with the Executive Director of GAB and worked out a system of handling complaints and inquiries on a "no fault" basis. The system was initially viewed with skepticism, but it really worked. It required complete honesty between Georgia broadcasters and the FCC office. Station owners and managers had to be committed to full co-operation.**

**Angelo Ditty, Jr., then engineer-in-charge of the FCC Atlanta office and his staff barnstormed the state explaining the system and compliance requirements. The stations complied with the program's simple requirements of correcting problems and answering forms provided by the Georgia Broadcasters Association.**

**According to GAB, it saves hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines and forfeitures and eliminated tons of paperwork. The service was such a success that it is being continued with Angelo's replacement. Angelo Ditty retired recently with broadcasters and local government officials lauding his years of dedicated innovative service.**

**I commend this "no fault" system or any practical version of it to Bill Borgman and the Michigan broadcasters. If interested, Karole White or your president should call Bill Sanders, GAB Executive Director and see if this system is viable in Michigan.**

**I'll be glad to lend the assistance of my office towards making the MAB relationship with the FCC Michigan office one of the best in the nation. The goal is to correct errors and prevent violations in a constructive manner. Confrontation should be reserved only for egregious deliberate violations.**

**We are in an era of intense public scrutiny of broadcasters and cable resulting in pressure on government officials for better service. Both broadcasters and the FCC offices should unite in their overall commitment to excellence!**