

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

Office of Commissioner
James H. Quello

March 20, 1996

Mr. Jay Kitchen
Chairman of the Board
Eugene C. Bowler Foundation
1501 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Re: Nomination of Ralph A. Haller

Dear Jay,

I am writing in response to your invitation for nominations for the Eugene C. Bowler Award. I am pleased to nominate Ralph A. Haller for this prestigious award.

As the Board of Directors is aware, the Bowler Award recognizes an outstanding government employee who has demonstrated the career excellence exemplified by Mr. Bowler. One of the professional pleasures that I have enjoyed during my over twenty-year tenure at the Federal Communications Commission was to have worked with Gene Bowler. Sustained excellence was truly the hallmark of his entire career at the FCC. I believe that Ralph Haller lives up to this ideal.

I have had the opportunity to work with all of the previous recipients. They are a stellar group of communications professionals. Similarly, I have worked with Ralph Haller as his career has blossomed. Ralph has taken on increasing responsibilities and handled them with acuity and dispatch. Moreover, Ralph genuinely cares about the well-being of his staff and the Commission's licensees. Long before it became trendy to talk about "our customers," Ralph was ever mindful of the effects of our rules and regulations on those who must live under them every day in processing requests in Washington, Gettysburg, and in the Field Offices and in providing communications services to the American public throughout our great country.

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It is from this vantage point that I nominate Ralph A. Haller. I do so wholeheartedly and without reservation. I trust that each of the members of the Board has benefitted from working with Ralph over his many years of service, so I will merely summarize his more notable achievements.

Ralph Haller has over thirty years experience in communications, including twenty-five years in positions of increasing responsibility with the Federal Communications Commission. Ralph's experience covers a comprehensive range of communications issues, including policy, regulatory, economic, and technical areas. Additionally, he has performed his management functions with distinction and compassion.

Currently, Ralph is serving as Deputy Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Previously, Ralph served as Chief of the Private Radio Bureau for eight years. Ralph has received outstanding ratings from the five Chairmen under whom he has served. While I was Chairman of the FCC, I was fortunate to be able to rely on Ralph's expertise and unfailingly sound judgment.

In particular, Ralph served as one of my chief advisors on the many technical and regulatory issues comprised in launching advanced mobile communications services such as Personal Communications Service (PCS). Subsequently, Ralph led Chairman Hundt's PCS Task Force. It is not an exaggeration to state that the PCS industry owes its timely and propitious birth to the diligent efforts of Ralph Haller.

Among Ralph's more noteworthy achievements are:

- o Initiation of several new communications services, *e.g.*, Personal Communications Service; Interactive Video Data Service; Inland Waterways Communications Service; Emergency Medical Radio Service; Narrowband Two-way Systems; Wide-area Dispatch Systems; Consolidated Tower Registration Program; and, Television Stereophonic Sound.
- o Streamlining the processing of radio licensing procedures in the FCC's Gettysburg Office. The Office now processes over 800,000 licenses per year with a staff of less than 150 employees.

- o Working with the Federal Aviation Administration to eliminate an air safety hazard of interference from cable television systems and FM broadcast stations.
- o Privatizing several government functions, including, amateur radio and commercial radio operator license examinations and coordination of frequencies in the two-way radio services.
- o Eliminating several licensing processes, such as those for private aircraft and boats (saving processing of 200,000 applications annually) and "delicensing" customers of various dispatch radio systems, thereby negating the need for 70,000 entities to file annually.
- o Chairing the Federal Advisory Committee for Cable Signal Leakage.
- o Producing the "Engineering for Non-engineers" video training course used in-house by the FCC and by many law firms.
- o Chairing the FCC Task Force on PCS and conducting the initial FCC spectrum auctions which netted the U.S. Treasury over \$7 billion.
- o Developing the federal charter for the Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee that is currently reviewing the communications needs of public safety entities through the year 2010.

As evidenced by the foregoing, communications is Ralph Haller's vocation. Communications is also his avocation and a skill that he possesses in abundance. He has served this Commission and the communications industries admirably. He is a consummate professional and exemplifies the true meaning of "government service". I can think of no more fitting recognition than having the Bowler Foundation bestow the Bowler Award upon him. I thank you for forwarding my nomination of Ralph A. Haller to the full selection committee for consideration.

Sincerely,


James H. Quello
Commissioner

Copy: Comr. Anne Jones
Jim McKinney
Len Kolsky