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CLIENT UPDATE
March 6, 2009

FCC Revises DTV Transition Notice Obligations

The FCC recently issued an order implementing new DTV transition notice obligations on cable operators. The new obligations take effect April 1, 2009, and continue through June 30, 2009.

Beginning no later than April 1, 2009, and concluding June 30, 2009, cable operators must include the following language in their monthly notices (new language in bold):

The nationwide switch to digital television broadcasting will be complete on June 12, 2009, but your local television stations may switch sooner. After the switch, analog-only television sets that receive TV programming through an antenna will need a converter box to continue to receive over-the-air TV. Watch your local stations to find out when they will turn off their analog signal and switch to digital-only broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before to receive low power, Class A or translator television stations and with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players, and similar products.

Moreover, the order also revised the DTV Transition information cable operators must provide. Your monthly notice must now include the following information (new language in bold):

Information about the DTV transition is available from **your local television stations**, www.DTV.gov, **1-888-CALL-FCC (TTY 1-888-TELL-FCC)**, or this MVPD at [telephone number and website if available], and from www.dtv2009.gov or 1-888-DTV-2009 **(TTY 1-877-530-2634)** for information about subsidized coupons for digital-to-analog converter boxes

The rest of the notice obligations remain the same.

If you have specific questions about the FCC's DTV transition notification requirements, please call Jeremy Kissel at (202) 609-7793.

FCC Extends Form 477 Filing Deadline to March 16, 2009

The FCC has extended the Form 477 filing deadline to **March 16, 2009**.

The Form 477 collects information about broadband connections to end-user locations, and wired and wireless local telephone services. The March 16 filing should include information about broadband connections and local telephone service as of December 31, 2008.

The new web-based interface through which filers will submit their Form 477 data has been activated, and is now available at <https://specialreports.fcc.gov/wcb/Form477/>.

The FCC also created a Form 477 resource page for filers, which can be accessed at <http://www.fcc.gov/form477/>.

For additional information on census tracts, go to <http://www.fcc.gov/form477/censustracts.html>.

If you have any questions about the new Form 477, please call Scott Friedman at (312) 372-3930, or Jeremy Kissel at (202) 609-7793.

Form 499A Due April 1, 2009

Every interconnected VoIP provider and telecommunications carrier is required to file their annual Form 499A with the Universal Service Administration Company on or before **April 1, 2009**. This includes any entity that relies on the *de minimus* exception for contributions to universal service.

The 2009 Form 499A is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form499-A/499a-2009.pdf> .

If you have any questions regarding Form 499A or your filing requirements, please contact Bruce Beard at (636) 778-0646.

Please visit our website at <http://www.cinnamonmueller.com> to learn more about our lawyers and practice. You can reach Cinnamon Mueller at 312-372-3930. *This update is provided by the law firm of Cinnamon Mueller. The document is intended for informational purposes only as a service to clients of Cinnamon Mueller and to the members of the American Cable Association. It is not intended to provide specific legal advice or to substitute obtaining appropriate legal counsel. We encourage you to consult with counsel to address special compliance issues and for assistance in negotiating or handling any such matter referred to in the update.*