



February 21, 2018

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
S-221
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer:

As you continue your consideration of nominees for the Democratic seat on the Federal Communications Commission, we strongly recommend the nomination of Geoffrey Starks. Geoffrey is eminently qualified for this position. Born in Kansas City, Geoffrey attended Harvard University where he graduated *Magna Cum Laude*. From there, he worked in state government and his passion for public service led him to Yale Law School where he distinguished himself as an active member of that community.

Geoffrey was appointed by President Obama to serve in the United States Department of Justice, the Office of the Deputy Attorney General. In this role, he served as senior counsel (part of the leadership team at the Department of Justice). He advised the Deputy Attorney General on a variety of matters, both domestic and international. He was responsible for healthcare and financial fraud matters and also advised the Department on civil, criminal, cyber, and national security matters. Once again, Geoffrey distinguished himself, earning the Attorney General Award for Exceptional Service, the highest honor a Department of Justice employee can receive.

Most recently, Geoffrey has served as the Assistant Chief of the Enforcement Bureau at the Federal Communications Commission. As part of the leadership team, Geoffrey conducts investigations under federal communications laws, advises on important legal matters, and sits on the Universal Service Fund Council, which coordinates issues regarding services that are vital to low income and rural Americans.

Much like Congress, America's independent agencies cannot fully represent all the communities they were designed to serve unless their senior leadership reflects the whole of America.

The Federal Communications Commission, through its work to implement and enforce America's communications laws and regulations, needs diverse representation to ensure that more voices and backgrounds are part of the most senior conversations on the direction of communications policy in America.

At every turn, Geoffrey Starks has proven to be an exceptional attorney, team member, and public servant. His nomination to be an FCC Commissioner would ensure that a diverse voice remains in one of our nation's most important institutions.



Together, we can continue the progress in ensuring that our government becomes truly representative of our nation. We look forward to working with you.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Spencer A. Overton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Spencer Overton
President
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies