

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. MCDOWELL**

Re: The Commercial Mobile Alert System, First Report and Order, PS Docket No. 07-287

At the outset, I want to acknowledge and thank Lisa Fowlkes, Jean Ann Collins and all of the team in the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau for their hard work. This project has congressionally-mandated deadlines, and they have stayed focused on their tasks to produce a great deal of excellent work in a short period of time.

I also want to thank the folks from private industry and public safety who are so generously giving of their time and expertise to serve on the Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee and participate in this important process. This project is an excellent example of the wonderful benefits that flow from a government-industry collaboration. I am pleased that the Commission has had a leading role in the meaningful partnership among the commercial wireless industry, technology providers and public safety entities.

By harnessing the expertise of all interested stakeholders, we have made great strides toward the roll-out of an expanded emergency alert system. We will *all* benefit from the important work this group has undertaken, and I look forward to continuing to work with all of you as we complete the next set of benchmarks. At this point, the Commission is already well poised to “get out of the way” and let the private sector deliver the new alert system for the benefit of America’s wireless consumers.