



Parents, Media and Public Policy

Biographies and Contact Information September 23, 2004

THE HONORABLE KATHLEEN Q. ABERNATHY

Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
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Kathleen Abernathy was nominated by President George W. Bush on May 1, 2001. She was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on May 25 and sworn in as FCC Commissioner on May 31, 2001. As Commissioner, she is responsible for representing the public interest in each of the policy areas under the FCC's jurisdiction. These responsibilities include regulation of broadcast television, cable, satellite, domestic and international telecommunications, wireless telephony, consumer protection and education and general enforcement of Commission rules. In addition to her other responsibilities at the FCC, she also chairs the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. Since joining the FCC, Commissioner Abernathy has been honored by several organizations for her professional achievements, including receiving the Forerunner Accolade from Women in Cable and Telecommunications, the Milestone Award from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law, and being named one of the most powerful women in television by *Electronic Media* magazine.

Prior to her FCC appointment, Commissioner Abernathy was Vice President of Public Policy at BroadBand Office Communications, Inc. Before that, she was a partner at the law firm of Wilkinson Barker Knauer. Commissioner Abernathy's experience also includes serving as Vice President for Regulatory Affairs at U.S. West, Inc. and as Vice President for Federal Regulatory at AirTouch Communications, Inc.

In addition to her experience in the private sector, Commissioner Abernathy held several positions at the FCC. She was a Telecommunications Legal Advisor to FCC Chairman James H. Quello, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Sherrie P. Marshall, and Special Assistant to the FCC's General Counsel.

Commissioner Abernathy has been very active in various bar activities and academia. She is a member and former President of the Federal Communications Bar Association and a member of the Washington, D.C. Bar. She has also served as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center and The Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law. Commissioner Abernathy is a graduate of Marquette University, where she received a Bachelor of Sciences degree, *magna cum laude*. She received a Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law. Commissioner Abernathy is married and has one daughter.

ELLEN AGRESS

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Ellen S. Agress was appointed Senior Vice President of News America Incorporated in July 1997. She also serves as Deputy General Counsel - Communications.

Agress joined News in 1996 as the General Counsel of American Sky Broadcasting. Prior to joining News, she had been Vice President, Legal Policy and Planning at the National Broadcasting Company, Inc. ("NBC") since December 1988. She started at NBC in the position of Senior Counsel in 1978, and held various positions, both in the Law Department and as the head of NBC's Corporate Planning and Business Development unit. Prior to NBC, Agress worked at private law firms in Boston and New York, and at Citizens Communications Center, a media advocacy law firm based in Washington, D.C.

Her current responsibilities include the regulatory and legislative issues affecting the various domestic and international media companies owned and managed by News, including the Fox Television Network, Fox owned television stations and such cable programming services as FX, Fox News Channel, Fox Family Channel and Fox Sports Net. She is also responsible for the development and implementation of the Company's privacy policies and practices.

Agress is a graduate of the Harvard Law School (1971) and the University of Michigan (1968). She is admitted to the Bars of Massachusetts, New York and the District of Columbia. She lives in Scarborough, New York, with her husband, Jay Gerber, and has two children, Emily and Adam.

THE HONORABLE SAM BROWNBACK

U.S. Senator
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Sam Brownback grew up on the family farm near Parker, Kansas, where his family still farms. In his early years, Brownback served as state president and as a national officer of the Future Farmers of America. Later he received a Bachelor of Science degree with honors in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State University, and a law degree from the University of Kansas. In 1986, Brownback was chosen as the youngest secretary of agriculture in state history. He served until 1993 with a one year sabbatical to serve as a White House Fellow in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

In 1994, he was elected to Congress, representing the Second District of Kansas. As a member of the House of Representatives, Brownback took a lead role among the freshman class of 1994 in pursuit of his philosophy to reduce the size and intrusiveness of the federal government, reform the Congress, and to help return the country to its traditional values.

In 1996, the people of Kansas elected Sam Brownback as their 32nd U.S. Senator, filling out the unexpired portion of Sen. Bob Dole's term. In 1998, they re-elected him to a full six-year term. In the 108th Congress, Brownback serves on four committees: the Committee on Appropriations; the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation; the Committee on Foreign Relations; and the Joint Economic Committee.

Brownback is a leading voice in calling for increased corporate responsibility in the entertainment industry. He convened the first congressional public health summit on entertainment violence, and sponsored legislation authorizing the Federal Trade Commission report, which uncovered the widespread marketing of violent, adult-rated entertainment to children. Brownback has also taken an active role in developing U.S. foreign policy concerning India, Pakistan, Central Asia and Iraq. He also forcefully advocates for trade policy supporting U.S. agriculture exports in the international marketplace.

Brownback chairs the Commerce Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, and is working on challenges ranging from the ongoing debate over human cloning, addressing the role of the media in public health, and identifying innovative solutions to our common environmental concerns. He is also addressing the challenge of revitalizing and growing our technology sector, focusing on the aerospace industry to ensure it retains its position of leadership in the competitive international market, as well as reestablishing American leadership in the commercial space sector.

He is co-chair of the Senate Cancer Coalition, co-chair of the Congressional Wireless Caucus, and member of Senate Republican High Tech Task Force. Through his career, Brownback has worked as an administrator, broadcaster, attorney, teacher, and author. Brownback is the co-author of two books and numerous articles.

JACKIE JUDD

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Jackie Judd, an Emmy award-winning journalist, is a Vice President and Senior Advisor for Communications with the Kaiser Family Foundation. Ms. Judd is exploring better ways to communicate health policy information, helping to design a new initiative to help educate journalists from around the world about public health issues, including HIV/AIDS and is helping the foundation and other non-profit organizations utilize the Foundation's broadcast and webcast studio and Barbara Jordan Conference Center in its new Washington, DC, building.

Ms. Judd joined ABC News in 1987 and in 1994 was named special assignments correspondent. She provided reports for "World News Tonight with Peter Jennings," "Nightline" and "Good Morning America." She is a former news anchor for National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" and weekend news anchor for "All Things Considered" and a former CBS News Radio correspondent. Her honors include a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship in

political history at the University of California at Santa Barbara; several Emmy Awards, an Edward R. Murrow Award, the Joan Barone Award, a duPont Award, a commendation from Women in Radio and Television for a series on women's health issues; an Emmy for "Nightline's" coverage of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait; and an Overseas Press Club Citation of Excellence for her piece on the Czechoslovakian secret police. She received a bachelor's degree from American University in 1974.

PATTI MILLER, M.A.

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Patti Miller is the director of the Children & the Media Program at Children Now, a national research and advocacy organization. She oversees independent research projects on children and the media and monitors public policy development in the communications field as it affects children. Her areas of expertise include: children's media policy, prime time television diversity, children's programming, gender and media, and representations of youth in the news. She has testified before the Federal Communications Commission on media consolidation and children's programming, as well as the potential impacts of digital television on youth.

Prior to joining Children Now, Ms. Miller worked as a project manager at a San Francisco-based research firm, evaluating children's educational programs for PBS. She also spent several years working in research and production for CBS News in Washington D.C. Ms. Miller holds a master's degree in social sciences in education from Stanford University and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of California at Berkeley with a degree in mass communications.

VICTORIA RIDEOUT, M.A.

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Victoria Rideout is a vice president of the Kaiser Family Foundation and director of the Foundation's Program for the Study of Entertainment Media and Health. At the Foundation, Ms. Rideout developed and launched public education campaigns with several television networks, including MTV, BET and UPN. The public service ads and full-length programming she helped develop have received numerous awards, including a national Emmy Award for best public service announcement, a Cine Golden Eagle award, the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Ribbon of Hope Award, and several Telly and Aegis Awards for advertising. Ms. Rideout currently oversees the Foundation's research agenda on the impact of entertainment media on health. She has directed numerous media-related studies on topics such as children's

media use, sexual content on television, the V-Chip, teens and the Internet, and the impact on viewers of health information on TV. Ms. Rideout also has fifteen years of experience as a senior policy adviser and speechwriter to numerous government officeholders and political candidates. She graduated with honors from Harvard University and has a Masters Degree in American History from Syracuse University.

JACK VALENTI

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In his role as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Motion Picture Association, Jack Valenti has presided over and led the American film and television industry as it confronted a sea change in the landscape of the industry, both in the United States and abroad.

Born in Houston, Texas, Valenti was the youngest (age 15) high school graduate in the city. As a young pilot in the Army Air Corps in World War II, Lieutenant Valenti flew 51 combat missions as the pilot-commander of a B-25 attack bomber with the 12th Air Force in Italy. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with four clusters, the Distinguished Unit Citation with one cluster and the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars. He has a B.A. from the University of Houston and a M.B.A. from Harvard.

In 1952, Valenti co-founded the advertising/political consulting agency of Weekley & Valenti. In 1955 he met the man who would have the largest impact on his life, Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson. Valenti's agency was in charge of the press during the visit of President Kennedy and Vice President Johnson to Texas. Valenti was in the motorcade (six cars back of the President) in Dallas on November 22, 1963. Within an hour of the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Valenti was aboard Air Force One flying back to Washington with the new President as the first newly hired Special Assistant to the President.

In 1966, Valenti resigned his White House post to become the third man in MPA's history (founded in 1922) to become its leader. He has written four books (three non-fiction): *The Bitter Taste of Glory* (World Publishing); *A Very Human President* (W.W. Norton Co.); *Speak Up With Confidence* (Wm. Morrow Co.), and the political novel, *Protect and Defend* (Doubleday). His most recent book is an updated revision of *Speak Up With Confidence* (2002, Hyperion). He has also written extensively for America's preeminent newspapers and magazines. He is one of the few public figures who actually writes his own speeches.

France has conferred upon him its highly prized Legion d'Honneur, the French Legion of Honor. Valenti has been awarded his own star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. He has been named a Life Member of the Directors Guild of America.