

## **Appendix I**

### **Representative Community Leader Testimonials**



**Johnson County Commission**

**William Brenner**  
Presiding Commissioner

**Scott Sader**  
Commissioner, Eastern District

**Destry Hough**  
Commissioner, Western District

**Gilbert Powers**  
County Clerk

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Johnson County Courthouse, 300 N Holden, Warrensburg, MO 64093  
(660) 747-6161 • Fax 747-9332 [countyclerk@jccocourthouse.com](mailto:countyclerk@jccocourthouse.com)  
[www.jccocourthouse.com](http://www.jccocourthouse.com)

January 13, 2005

To the Missouri Public Service Commission:


As Johnson County Commissioners, we want to express our belief that it is in the public's best interest to grant Mid-Missouri Cellular (MMC) Eligible Telecommunications Carrier status. It follows that MMC should also receive full access to the Universal Service Fund (USF).

Doing so will allow MMC to implement enhanced 911 service to customers in Johnson County and to construct additional cellular towers for better, more consistent coverage.

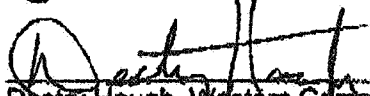
Emergency 911 location specific technology is imperative in emergency situations on rural country roads. It is very much in the public's interest for MMC to be able to provide such services in that situation. Adding more cellular towers would also mean better overall coverage to ensure that customers are not stranded in any "dead" areas. Finally, with access to the USF, MMC will be able to provide more competitive rates for wireless phone services to all potential customers.

We heartily recommend that you reconsider your earlier decision and grant Mid-Missouri Cellular Eligible Telecommunications Carrier status. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
William Brenner, Presiding Commissioner

  
Scott Sader, Eastern Commissioner

  
Destry Hough, Western Commissioner



County of

**HOWARD**

*State of Missouri*

Howard County Courthouse

Fayette, MO 65248

(660) 248-2193 or 248-2284

Office of

LOWELL EATON

Presiding Commissioner

RICHARD CONROW

Eastern District Commissioner

HOWARD BLACK

Western District Commissioner

**January 19, 2005**

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
GOVERNOR OFFICE BUILDING  
200 MADISON STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 360  
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102**

**Members of the Commission:**

**The purpose of our letter is to strongly recommend Mid-Missouri Cellular (MMC), be granted access to a federally mandated, industry-generated fund termed the Universal Service Fund (USF).**

**Mid-Missouri Cellular has a blockbuster of a plan if allowed its share of funds. Without question, the Howard County Commission wholeheartedly supports MMC in its efforts to**

improve cellular quality. The citizens of our county will benefit significantly with MMC constructing ten cellular towers. Mid-Missouri Cellular can feasibly invest money into a high cost area such as ours, "if and only if" granted access to the Universal Service Fund. Many, many states have "tapped" into the USF. The question the Howard County Commission asks is, "Why is Mid-Missouri Cellular, the wireless company headquartered in Sedalia, not given access to this special fund?" Along with that question, we wish to inform the Missouri Public Service Commission, the latest next generation technology is especially vital to those in our community who are our most senior.

We ask the members of the Missouri Public Service Commission, to consider the improvement in cellular telephone service that will result IF the ten cellular towers are built. We ask you to consider the improvement in emergency services that will result, especially in a rural county such as ours. An improvement to be made will encompass emergency 9-1-1 location services. At present, if someone makes an emergency cellular telephone call, it can be tracked to within several miles of the caller. If Mid-Missouri Cellular gains access to the Universal Service Fund, the cellular telephone company will enhance its emergency services capability. It will be armed with the ability to pinpoint a cellular telephone caller's location to a matter of a few feet.

In closing, we ask the members of the Missouri Public Service Commission, to consider our "way of life" in Howard County. Our way of life is agriculture. It is a "romantic" way of life steeped in rich tradition. However; there is always an element of danger in our daily livelihood of working with machinery, harvesting crops, tending livestock. Much of it done in solitary conditions. In other words, a marked improvement in cellular quality may result in the saving of life "of one of our own."

The advent of the cellular telephone was one of the most remarkable inventions of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. For those involved in farming, it provides us "peace of mind." We know at least

we have a "fighting chance," if alone and become seriously ill, trapped by a piece of machinery, or hurt while working with livestock.

The answer the County of Howard provides the Missouri Public Service Commission is we unhesitatingly endorse the notion that Mid-Missouri Cellular be granted access to the federally mandated, industry-generated fund termed the Universal Service Fund (USF).

We appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Thank you.

Most sincerely,

  
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**LOWELL EATON, PRESIDING COMMISSIONER**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**RICHARD CONROW, EASTERN DISTRICT COMMISSIONER**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**HOWARD BLACK, WESTERN DISTRICT COMMISSIONER**

January 11, 2005

Pettis County Commissioners

This letter will help shed light on the current situation of a local company struggling with the actions of the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC). Mid-Missouri Cellular (MMC), a wireless firm headquartered in Sedalia, has been deadlocked for over two years in a struggle with the PSC. MMC was the first wireless company in Missouri to file for access to a federally mandated, industry-generated fund called the Universal Service Fund (USF).

This fund is intended to assist telecommunications carriers with the expenses of installing the latest next generation technologies in high-cost areas. In most cases, state governments decide who receives access to this fund and how they use it. While dozens of other states are utilizing this pool of money for the public good, Missourians continue to be left out.

The PSC has claimed that granting MMC access to these federal funds is not in the public interest. However, MMC plans to use their share of these funds to improve cellular quality (constructing 10 additional cellular towers) and emergency services in the most rural areas of its 7-county Missouri market, which is critical to customer safety and well-being. One of these improvements will be emergency 911 location services. Currently, an emergency call from a cell phone can be tracked to within several miles of the caller. With access to the USF, MMC will enhance that capability, giving emergency services the ability to pinpoint a caller's location to within a few feet.

Without use of these funds, MMC, a small wireless carrier, cannot make the important changes possible for its rural customers. We ask that you, as public officials, voice your support to our PSC commissioners, putting Mid-Missouri Cellular on a quick road to gaining use of the Universal Service Fund. Doing so will allow the deployment of more cell sites, and the latest in cellular technology and emergency service capabilities for your area. Our ultimate goal is to establish some form of partnership with you where all citizens can benefit from better emergency services throughout Missouri.

Sincerely

Kevin Dawson  
General Manager  
Mid-Missouri Cellular

K.R. Zundewitz  
Pettis Co. Expo - Comm's  
1-11-05

Howard County E911  
600 West Morrison, Suite 1  
Fayette, Missouri 65248

January 12, 2008

To the Missouri Public Service Commission:

As the Emergency 911 Director for Howard County, the benefits of cellular technology to the users of 911 are of great interest to me. When I heard recently that our wireless carrier, Mid-Missouri Cellular, had been denied the status necessary to utilize an industry-generated fund to make these changes possible, in Howard and in the other Missouri counties they serve, I was concerned.

I firmly believe that if you will reconsider and grant Mid-Missouri Cellular the telecommunications status it deserves, it will make immediately possible the availability of enhanced technology to the entire market area in question, not just its cities and larger towns. Thus status, if granted, will enable Mid-Missouri Cellular to make the upgrades necessary -- and would be a valuable feature for all citizens of this county.

To make these things happen, additional cellular towers, crucial for reducing response time in emergency situations, must be built, so our agency personnel can clearly determine the needs of the caller. Doing so would also benefit our law enforcement personnel, fire department, EMS and other agencies who depend greatly on the ability to communicate quickly.

Without this technology being put in place soon, the risk of the loss of life and property will rise. I'm sure the members of the PSC don't want this to happen. I urge you to reverse your previous decision and grant Emergency Telecommunications Carrier status to Mid-Missouri Cellular, allowing them to access the industry-generated fund that was created just for this purpose -- the benefit of our citizens.

Sincerely,

  
Charlotte Dygart

Director

January 26, 2005

To the Missouri Public Service Commission:

This letter is intended to support Mid-Missouri Cellular's (MMC) attempt to gain Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) status. It would follow that Mid-Missouri Cellular would then have access to the Universal Service Fund.

As E911 Director of Cooper County, I heartily recommend that MMC be granted ETC Status and access to these funds. It is most definitely in the public's best interest for a fully qualified wireless company like MMC to gain access to these funds.

MMC has outlined a clear plan detailing how the funds will be used when ETC status is granted. MMC will utilize the funds available to them to improve overall cellular quality, build 10 more cell sites, and extend up-to-date emergency services to the most rural areas of its 7 county Missouri market.

Without access to this fund, MMC will be forced to find alternative methods of funding these improvements. This could take more time, delaying the necessary and eventual changes, and could mean the difference between life and death for someone in danger and in need of help. Please consider reversing your earlier decision and grant Mid-Missouri Cellular Eligible Telecommunications Carrier status. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Thomas V. White

Director

Cooper County EMA/911



# **City of Glasgow Missouri**

**Paradise on the Missouri River**

This letter will help shed light on the current situation of a local company struggling with the actions of the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC). Mid-Missouri Cellular (MMC), a wireless firm with headquarters in Sedalia, and one who covers our area, is, I understand, deadlocked in a struggle with the PSC. They have asked for and have been denied the status necessary to allow them access to the Universal Service Fund (USF), a federally-mandated, industry-driven fund meant for use by smaller firms to make technology possible to all customers in high cost areas – that abound in parts of Missouri such as Howard County.

In most case, it is my understanding that state governments decide who receives access to this fund and how it is to be used. While dozens of other states are utilizing this pool of money for the public good, Missourians continue to be left out.

We hear that your board has claimed that granting MMC access to these funds is not in the public interest. However, MMC plans to use their share of these funds to improve cellular quality (constructing 10 additional towers; upgrading equipment) and emergency services in the most rural areas of its 7-county Missouri market, which is critical to our safety and well-being. One of these improvements is 911 location services. Currently, an emergency call from a cell phone can be tracked to within several miles of the caller. With access to the USC, MMC can help enhance that capability, giving emergency services the ability to pinpoint a caller's location to within a few feet.

Without access to these funds, MMC cannot make the changes mandated by the federal government. As a public servant, I ask that you, as a governing board, reverse your denial of this company's request and put MMC on a quick road to its deserved status and access to the USF.

**Kind Regards**

**Mayor of Glasgow**

**Ken Gebhardt**



January 17, 2005

To Mayor Tom Beamer:

This letter will help shed light on the current situation of a local company struggling with the actions of the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC). Mid-Missouri Cellular (MMC), a wireless firm headquartered in Sedalia, has been deadlocked for over two years in a struggle with the PSC. MMC was the first wireless company in Missouri to file for access to a federally mandated, industry-generated fund called the Universal Service Fund (USF).

This fund is intended to assist telecommunications carriers with the expenses of installing the latest next generation technologies in high-cost areas. In most cases, state governments decide who receives access to this fund and how they use it. While dozens of other states are utilizing this pool of money for the public good, Missourians continue to be left out.

The PSC has claimed that granting MMC access to these federal funds is not in the public interest. However, MMC plans to use their share of these funds to improve cellular quality (constructing 10 additional cellular towers) and emergency services in the most rural areas of its 7-county Missouri market, which is critical to customer safety and well-being. One of these improvements will be emergency 911 location services. Currently, an emergency call from a cell phone can be tracked to within several miles of the caller. With access to the USF, MMC will enhance that capability, giving emergency services the ability to pinpoint a caller's location to within a few feet.

Without use of these funds, MMC, a small wireless carrier, cannot make the important changes possible for its rural customers. We ask that you, as public officials, voice your support to our PSC commissioners, putting Mid-Missouri Cellular on a quick road to gaining use of the Universal Service Fund. Doing so will allow the deployment of more cell sites, and the latest in cellular technology and emergency service capabilities for your area. Our ultimate goal is to establish some form of partnership with you where all citizens can benefit from better emergency services throughout Missouri.

Sincerely,

Kevin Dawson  
General Manager  
Mid-Missouri Cellular

*Tom Beamer*  
*Mayor Snow Rock, MO*

With your permission, and after you've completed the following form, Mid-Missouri Cellular will draft a letter explaining your position to send to the Missouri Public Service Commission. A copy of this letter will be forwarded for your approval, and then sent to the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Name: City of Lexington, Tom Hayes

Position: Mayor

I believe the Missouri Public Service Commission should grant Mid-Missouri Cellular access to the Federal Universal Service Fund because...

the latest technology is of vital importance to the rural communities. There is a vast amount of open space that needs to have coverage. In the addition of cell towers and improved enhanced services is a necessity.

If Mid-Missouri Cellular had access to the Universal Service Fund, they would be able to provide the following services to my area that we need (enhanced coverage, emergency 911 location, etc.)

Unlike in the large communities <sup>where</sup> 911 emergency service locations are simpler, the rural areas have a lot of agricultural, wooded and pasture areas that make locations very difficult. You could say this is a public safety issue.

Phone Number: 259-4633

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