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Department of Defense  
OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

### 3.45 GHZ WORKSHOP CTIA, WASHINGTON, DC APRIL 19, 2022

#### ★★★Remarks for Ms. Vernita D. Harris★★★

Thank you for the introduction, thank you all for joining today, and a special thanks to Meredith Baker's and CTIA's leadership in hosting this important workshop and Steven Barry and the CCA team for your continued partnership with the DoD.

[...]

My name is Vernita D. Harris, and I am the Director of Electromagnetic Spectrum Enterprise Policy and Programs (or EMSEPP) within DOD CIO.

[...]

In *Back to the Future*, Marty McFly traveled in Doc Brown's DeLorean time machine to a future filled with new technologies such as hover boards, flying cars, dog walking drones and robot gas stations. While no one can predict the "next" future with any more accuracy, we know that new and emerging technologies will require access to invisible airwaves called spectrum to make them happen.

[...]

Here in the present, which is sadly devoid of drone dogwalkers, the invisible spectrum airwaves on which the nation's business infrastructure, personal communications, air traffic control and weather forecasting systems run is growing increasingly crowded. Given projected increases in all forms of spectrum use, for 5G and FutureG wireless technologies, traditional ways of governing the nation's airwaves is being stretched to the breaking point unless additional and improved forms of spectrum sharing sparks a stimulus for continued technological innovation.

[...]

DoD is already seeing far-reaching benefits from its work on spectrum sharing. Two summers ago, the FCC auctioned Citizens Broadband Radio Service licenses to mid-band spectrum that is shared by the U.S. Navy. The sharing framework supports private sector 5G (including traditional wireless carriers and a range of smaller non-traditional companies) while allowing U.S. defense agencies to retain access to spectrum when needed.

[...]

DoD's work with industry to advance wireless innovation is not a recent phenomenon. For example, DoD and Qualcomm developed Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA)

technology for military users over 30 years ago. CDMA was a key digital communications technology for 2G and 3G wireless services which paved the way for our current 4G and 5G systems. DoD's work on ultra-wideband technologies occurred over 20 years ago and today's latest Apple iPhones now incorporate the technology for a wide range of applications. DARPA explored dynamic spectrum access systems which helped DoD understand the spectrum sharing used in the FCC's CBRS model. DoD long viewed technology as the way to increase spectrum access and utility.

[...]

DoD's next big wireless innovation push is exploring how 5G can be used for its own operations. Several DoD 5G pilots are exploring advanced sharing concepts between commercial and federal systems. DoD's work to solve spectrum sharing is geared to solving its own growing spectrum access requirement; but like many previous DoD innovations, the outcome will benefit both the private sector and the government. The work DoD continues to lead validates the sharing model. My remarks today reflect my strong belief that newer forms of sharing can lead to a future that ensures U.S. leadership in all things wireless.

[...]

As Secretary Austin said in his day one message to the DOD: "None of us succeeds at this business alone. Defending the country requires teamwork and cooperation." Which is why we need to remember this now more than ever; we are stronger -- and better -- when we work together. The DoD is committed to a strong, enduring, and transparent partnership with industry to share the 3.45 GHz band. I have touched upon our track record of success which we can build upon.

[...]

But that is not to say the process before us will be an easy one. Various factors add layers of complexity to the coordination required to share spectrum in this band. Despite these challenges, DoD is 100 percent committed to working with industry and whatever known and unforeseen challenges that lie ahead

[...]

This workshop is the first conversation of what will be a continuing dialogue toward harmonious coexistence in the band. We began our transition efforts in January when FCC closed Auction 110 and we will be ready to commence formal coordination with the licensees on October 14, 2022. Given where we are in the process, we may not have perfect answers to some of your questions today. In addition to informal coordination, DoD plans to host a second workshop (like today) in July to build on

today's discussion and strengthening partnership. DoD will keep "good faith" with our commercial partners, and we ask that you do the same.

[...]

In closing, spectrum is deeply embedded into our daily fabric. It is unseen but proved essential to nearly every aspect of our daily lives, from working to educating our children to keeping us entertained and informed. As Marty McFly said, "If you put your mind to it, you can accomplish anything." The choices policymakers make today will influence our tomorrow. Future sharing policies must be broad enough to serve all users, including the Federal government. This is about our Nation – both its economy and its warfighters. Our shared support for each does not have to be mutually exclusively – we can support both vigorously; we can share the spectrum. The Future Depends on It! I want to thank CTIA again for the opportunity to speak today and for the special partnership we have enjoyed in sharing the spectrum for the benefit of our Nation. I truly appreciate the work you have done to advance spectrum sharing.