



Date: 3/4/2025

Subject: FCC Office of Communications Business Opportunities News Digest—March 2025

Greetings from the Federal Communications Commission.

The FCC's Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO) advises the Commission on issues, rulemakings, and policies that affect small businesses. To increase small business engagement with the FCC, OCBO publishes a monthly digest with updates and reminders that may be of interest to small business stakeholders. This list is not comprehensive of all FCC deadlines, programs, and initiatives, but does represent items that OCBO considers important to the communities that you serve.

Please reach out to OCBO at OCBOinfo@fcc.gov with any questions, or to be added to our distribution list. A copy of this news digest is also available at www.fcc.gov/OCBO.

Important News and Announcements

For daily news from the FCC, sign up for the FCC's Daily Digest at FCC.gov/daily-digest

February Open Commission Meeting

On February 27th, the Commission held its first meeting under the leadership of Chairman Brendan Carr, and adopted the draft items listed below:

- *Enhancing National Security Through the Auctioning of Spectrum Licenses*

The Commission considered a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) that would update 10 year-old AWS-3 service-specific competitive bidding rules to bring those rules in line with current practice as the first step in fulfilling the Commission's statutory obligation to initiate an auction of licenses for the AWS-3 spectrum in the Commission's inventory by June 23, 2026, under the Spectrum and Secure Technology and Innovation Act. (GN Docket Nos. 25-70, 25-71, 13-185)

- *Exploring New Uses for Mid-Band Spectrum in the Upper C-band*

The Commission considered a [Notice of Inquiry](#) exploring whether, and if so how, we could free up additional mid-band spectrum for new services in the Upper C-band to meet projected spectrum demand, spur economic growth, and advance American security interests. (GN Docket No. 25-59)

- *Making Wireless Emergency Alerts More Responsive to Public Safety and Consumer Needs*

The Commission considered a [Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) intended to give emergency managers and consumers greater customization of the Wireless Emergency Alerts they send and receive, which would increase public safety and reduce consumers opting out of this life-saving service. (PS Docket Nos. 15-91, 15-94)

- *Strengthening Call Blocking Rules*

The Commission considered a [Report and Order](#) that strengthens the Commission's call blocking rules by expanding the requirement to block calls based on a reasonable do-not-originate list to include all providers in the call path and by designating an exclusive code to notify callers when certain calls are blocked. (CG Docket No. 17-59)

- *Combatting Loud Commercial Advertisements*

The Commission considered a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) that would undertake a review of the Commission's commercial loudness rules, in effect since 2012, and seek comment on the need for updates or changes. (MB Docket No. 25-72)

Upcoming FCC Events

Please visit [FCC.gov/Events](https://www.fcc.gov/Events) for a complete FCC event Calendar

Communications Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council IX Meeting

March 19, 2025

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT

Commission Meeting Room, FCC Headquarters, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554

[FCC.gov/Live](https://www.fcc.gov/Live)

The CSRIC is a Federal Advisory Committee that provides recommendations to the FCC regarding best practices and actions the FCC can take to ensure the security, reliability, and interoperability of communications systems.

March Open Commission Meeting

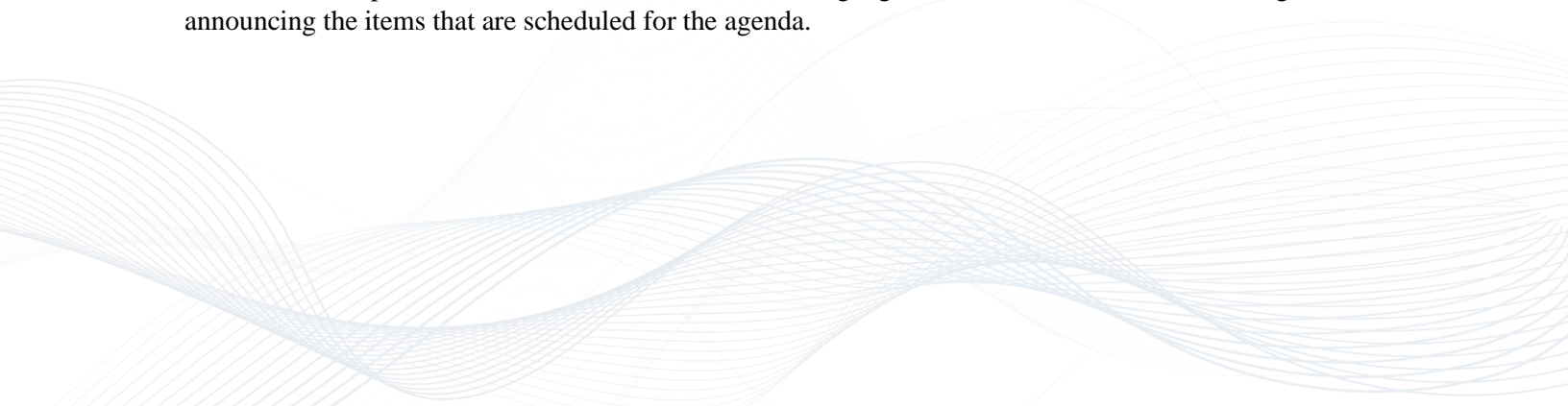
March 27, 2025

10:30 am - 12:30 pm EDT

Commission Meeting Room, FCC Headquarters, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554

[FCC.gov/Live](https://www.fcc.gov/Live)

Topics selected for the March 27th, FCC open meeting agenda will be posted on the Commission's website approximately three weeks prior to the Commission's next monthly meeting. The Commission will also issue a public notice of the "Commission Meeting Agenda" one week before the meeting, announcing the items that are scheduled for the agenda.



Open Comment Periods

[FCC Seeks Comment on Proposed Rules To Re-Allocate 1675-1680 MHz Band \(WT Docket No. 19-116\)](#)

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau seeks to supplement the record concerning rules proposed in a 2019 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to reallocate the 1675-1680 MHz band for shared use between incumbent federal operators and new, non-federal flexible wireless (fixed or mobile) use operations. Please see the *Federal Register* notice linked above for comment filing instructions.

Comments are due February 28, 2025. Reply comments are due March 17, 2025.

New Compliance Guides for Small Businesses

View All FCC Compliance Guides at [FCC.gov/general/compliance-guides-small-businesses](https://www.fcc.gov/general/compliance-guides-small-businesses)

[Spectrum Rules and Policies for the Operation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(DA-25-124\)](#)

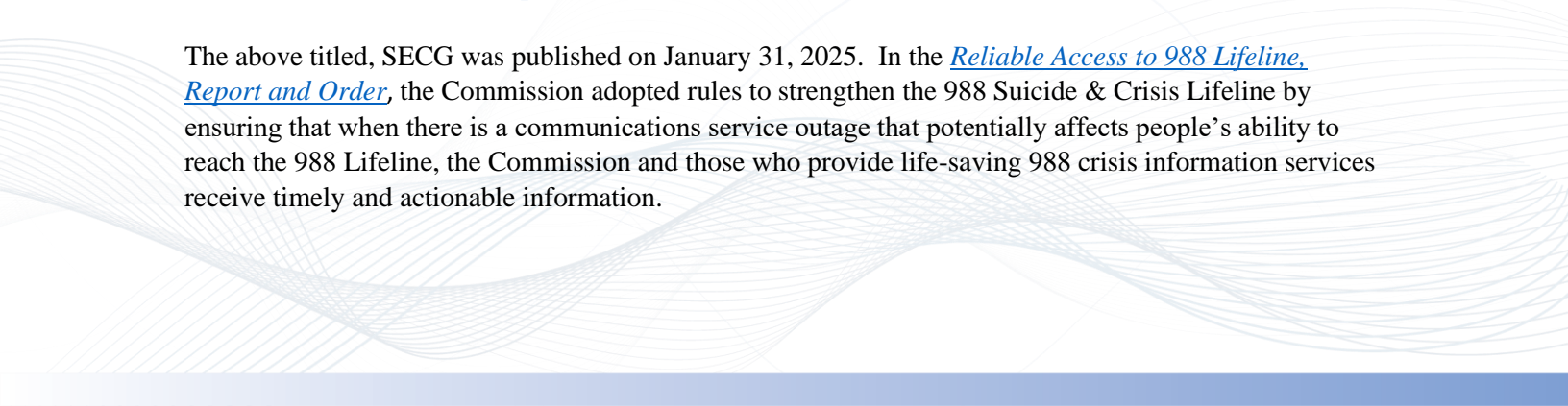
The above titled, SECG was published on February 11, 2025. In the, [Uncrewed Aircraft Use in the 5 GHz Band, Report and Order](#), the Commission adopts service rules under new part 88 to allow operators to obtain direct frequency assignments in a portion of the 5030-5091 MHz band for non-networked operations.

[Modifying Emissions Limits for the 24.25-24.45 GHz and 24.75-25.25 GHz Bands \(DA-25-123\)](#)

The above titled, SECG was published on February 11, 2025. In the [Modified Emissions Limits for the 24 GHz Band, Report and Order](#), the Commission revises rules for the 24.25-24.45 GHz and 24.75-25.25 GHz bands to implement certain decisions made in the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2019 (WRC-19).

[Ensuring the Reliability and Resiliency of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline; Amendment to Part 4 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Disruptions to Communications; Implementation of the National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act of 2018 \(DA 25-98\)](#)

The above titled, SECG was published on January 31, 2025. In the [Reliable Access to 988 Lifeline, Report and Order](#), the Commission adopted rules to strengthen the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline by ensuring that when there is a communications service outage that potentially affects people's ability to reach the 988 Lifeline, the Commission and those who provide life-saving 988 crisis information services receive timely and actionable information.



[Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities; Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Services Program \(DA 25-91\)](#)

The above titled, SECG was published on January 28, 2025. In the [Improving the Efficacy and Quality of Video Relay Service \(VRS\), Order](#), the Commission temporarily extends current waivers and updates VRS rules for at-home call handling and the use of contract CAs. It also updates VRS travel notification requirements and adopts a technical amendment to the IP Relay compensation rules.

[Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program Order \(DA 25-89\)](#)

The above titled, SECG was published on January 24, 2025. In the [Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program, Report and Order](#), the Commission adopts a three-year pilot program within the Universal Service Fund to provide up to \$200 million to support cybersecurity services and equipment for eligible schools and libraries.

[Achieving 100% Wireless Handset Model Hearing Aid Compatibility \(DA-25-78\)](#)

The above titled, SECG was published on January 21, 2025. In the [Achieving 100% Wireless Handset Model Hearing Aid Compatibility, Report and Order](#), the Commission adopted FCC adopted rules requiring 100% of future wireless handset models offered for sale or use in the United States be hearing aid compatible to advance the Commission's goal of ensuring that all Americans can access communications services on an equal basis.

[Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, Fourth Report and Order \(DA-25-77\)](#)

The above titled, SECG was published on January 21, 2025. In the [Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, Fourth Report and Order](#), the Commission adopted measures to expedite resolution of pole attachment disputes that impede or delay broadband deployment.

[All-In Pricing for Cable and Satellite Television Service \(DA-25-76\)](#)

The above titled, SECG was published on January 21, 2025. The ['All-In' Cable and Satellite Video Pricing, Report and Order](#), the Commission adopts rules requiring cable and satellite TV providers to specify the "all-in" price for video programming services in order to allow consumers to make informed choices.

