Announcement of Bilateral Initiative to Combat Stolen Mobile Devices

November 13, 2012

Remarks by D.C.'s Metropolitan Police Department Chief of Police Cathy Lanier

Thanks for inviting me to this press conference today.

The Chairman says nobody worked harder – yes, no one worked harder, but I got nowhere until I got to [Chairman Genachowski].

This is an incredible demonstration of how things should work. How we got where we are today is that I realized that I needed help, and that I couldn't get help without making a phone call to the Chairman. And immediately the Chairman took action. [This is] something that law enforcement has been fighting for years – and very intensely for months – and a phone call to the Chairman and it was literally resolved in less than three months with a plan in place.

And it sounds like [it took] a breakfast with the Undersecretary, and the partnership in the communications community internationally to expand this effort.

Your leadership to keep pushing this forward is really important and should be recognized. Because you didn't just stop with what you did to help us here in the United States; you continued on and to work with Mexico.

A lot of people say the federal government doesn't get things done quickly. This is a great example of the federal government getting something very important done.

I represent the victims – and I have many names and faces in mind when we talk about this – who either have lost their life or had their life significantly changed because of a very senseless act of violence by somebody who wanted to take a phone, and then resell that phone on the black market.

To me this is very personal, and means an awful lot not only to the victims who have suffered from a crime, but also to the many consumers out there that you stand to protect. This is one less vulnerability.

Thank you for your leadership. I'm honored to be here to watch this signing. Thank you.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8kvdZCU1Us&feature=share&list=UUIWI0h4WenWWPlJrqU7GGsg