**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  **NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:**

July 9, 2014 Neil Grace, 202-418-0506

 E-mail: neil.grace@fcc.gov

**FCC ENFORCEMENT BUREAU ADDS DECORATED PROSECUTOR**

**TO ITS LEADERSHIP TEAM**

***Katherine Winfree, Maryland’s Chief Deputy Attorney General,***

***Joins the Enforcement Bureau as Chief of Staff***

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission’s Enforcement Bureau announced that Katherine Winfree has joined the Bureau as Chief of Staff. Ms. Winfree previously served as the Chief Deputy Attorney General for the State of Maryland—the second highest law enforcement officer in the state.

“Kay Winfree is a seasoned prosecutor, proven manager, and dynamic leader,” said Travis LeBlanc, Acting Chief of the Enforcement Bureau. “She brings solid prosecutorial leadership to our enforcement team, further enabling us to aggressively enforce the communications laws and combat fraud, waste, and abuse in a manner that is tough, fair, and efficient.”

Ms. Winfree is a nationally recognized leader in the area of prosecution and law enforcement. During her time as Chief Deputy Attorney General, Ms. Winfree supervised the 32 divisions of the Maryland Attorney General’s Office. Last year, she successfully represented the state before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Maryland v. King*, in which the Court upheld the constitutionality of the Maryland DNA Collection Act.

Before joining the Maryland Attorney General’s office, Ms. Winfree served for nearly two decades as a federal and state prosecutor, trying high-profile cases including federal public-corruption cases and the prosecution of the Beltway snipers, John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo. Among other roles with the U.S. Department of Justice, she has worked in the Appellate Section of the Criminal Division and has served as Chief of the Economic Crime and Public Corruption Sections in the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia. During her tenure as a federal prosecutor, she was the recipient of the Harold Sullivan Award honoring her as the top prosecutor from among 350 Assistant United States Attorneys. In addition to numerous Special Achievement Awards for outstanding performance, she received the Federal Bureau of Investigation Director’s Superior Performance Award for leading a major federal money laundering investigation and prosecuting two major automobile dealerships and their employees in a case that resulted in 19 convictions and more than three million dollars in forfeitures.

Ms. Winfree is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and the University of Oklahoma College of Law.

The Enforcement Bureau is the FCC’s largest bureau and the primary organizational unit responsible for enforcement of the Communications Act and other communications statutes, the Commission’s rules, Commission orders, and the terms and conditions of FCC authorizations. The Bureau particularly focuses on competition, consumer protection, communications funding programs, and public safety.

-FCC-