800 MHZ SPECIALIZED MOBILE RADIO SERVICES AUCTION RAISES $319,451,810.00

Washington, D.C. - The Federal Communications Commission's 800 MHz Specialized Mobile Radio Service (SMR) auction ended on Friday, September 1, 2000, raising a total net revenue of $319,451,810.00. Winners may use licenses to provide a variety of wireless SMR services including dispatch, mobile telephony, and mobile wireless data services. SMR bandwidth also can provide additional services, such as two-way acknowledgment paging and inventory tracking, credit card authorization, automatic vehicle location, fleet management, remote database access, voicemail, and facsimile services.

The auction, which began on August 16, ended after 76 rounds of bidding. Of the 14 winning bidders, 11 claimed small business status. 1,030 licenses were sold in the auction. The 23 unsold licenses will be part of a future auction.

Licenses were auctioned in 172 Economic Areas (EAs) across the United States. Licenses were also auctioned United States territories in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

License winners must make down payments on licenses 10 business days after the release of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Public Notice announcing the close of the auction. Winning bidders must also file their long form applications with the FCC within the same period. Further details about this and other FCC auctions can be accessed via the FCC's homepage at: http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/auctions/

The FCC has scheduled another auction of 800 MHz SMR service frequencies to begin on November 1, 2000. The FCC’s next auction, the 700 MHz Guard Band Auction, begins Wednesday, September 6, 2000.

FCC contacts (Auctions and Industry Analysis Division): Bob Reagle (717) 338-2807 or rreagle@fcc.gov; Nicole Oden (202) 418-0660 or noden@fcc.gov; TTY at (202) 418-7233; or (Commercial Wireless Division) Donald Johnson (202) 418-7240 or djohnson@fcc.gov; TTY at (202) 418-7233.