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For immediate release

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O’RIELLY
ON D.C. CIRCUIT TCPA DECISION**

WASHINGTON, March 16, 2018. – Commissioner O’Rielly made the following statement in response to the D.C. Circuit’s unanimous decision reversing much of the Federal Communications Commission’s 2015 order regarding various aspects of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. At the time, Commissioner O’Rielly dissented on the item’s substance and approved a number of included exemptions, calling claims that the order protected Americans a farce and highlighting that, in its overreach, the order would penalize businesses and institutions acting in good faith to reach their customers using modern technologies.

“I am heartened by the court’s unanimous decision, which seems to reaffirm the wording of the statute and rule of law. This will not lead to more illegal robocalls but instead remove unnecessary and inappropriate liability concerns for legitimate companies trying to reach their customers who want to be called. In effect, it rejects the former Commission’s misguided interpretation of the law, inappropriate expansion of scope, and irrational view of reassigned numbers. While I disagree with the court’s decision on the revocation issue, I believe there is an opportunity here for further review in order to square it with the Second Circuit’s more appropriate approach.”

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).