FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT BY MPAA PRESIDENT AND CEO DAN GLICKMAN REGARDING AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION V. FCC

“This is a disappointing decision and could create a digital television divide by slowing or eliminating access to high quality digital programming for some consumers.

“Television audiences – whether they subscribe to cable or satellite service or not - are benefiting from the higher quality picture of digital programming. If the Broadcast Flag cannot be used, program providers will have to weigh whether the risk of theft is too great over free, off-air broadcasting and could limit such high quality programming to only cable, satellite and other more secure delivery systems.

“It is important to remember that this decision is only about the FCC’s jurisdiction, not the merits of the Broadcast Flag itself.

“We will continue working aggressively on all fronts to make sure consumers will have access to high-value content on broadcast television.”

BACKGROUND:

*About the Broadcast Flag:* Digital programs received through cable or satellite systems can be protected from being passed to other viewers on the Internet. However, digital programming received through regular broadcast means is susceptible to mass illegal distribution. That’s where the Broadcast Flag comes in, providing the same protection for programs received through regular broadcast means that is afforded to cable and satellite programming. The Broadcast Flag does NOT prevent copying – only redistribution over the Internet and other digital networks.

*About ALA V. FCC:* The Federal Communications Commission issued regulations providing for use of the Broadcast Flag. The case challenges the FCC’s jurisdiction to take such action. It is NOT an argument about the merits of the Broadcast Flag itself.

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