



Julian Shepard Receives Extraordinary Service Award

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The Minority Media and Telecommunications Council has presented its Extraordinary Service Award to Julian Shepard, a partner in the Washington, DC office of the law firm of Williams Mullen. The award recognizes his "dedicated and brilliant service as a member of the MMTC EDP Task Force, whose efforts resulted in new Federal Communications Commission Rules that will profoundly facilitate Minority Broadcasters' access to capital."

Among other things, Mr. Shepard represented a coalition of television broadcast station owners in an FCC proceeding last year, which ultimately led to the adoption of several new minority ownership policy initiatives by the FCC. The coalition advocated specific proposals to advance the participation of minorities in the ownership of broadcast media, and consisted of Max Media LLC, Fox Television Stations, Inc., LIN Television Corp., Gannett Co., Inc., Granite Broadcasting Corp., Belo Corp., ShootingStar Broadcasting, and Banks Broadcasting, Inc.

The new FCC policies promote diversity by increasing and expanding broadcast ownership opportunities for small businesses, including minority and women-owned businesses. Among other things, the FCC revised its equity/debt attribution standard to facilitate investment in small businesses in order to promote diversity of ownership by women and minorities in broadcast facilities. According to FCC Chairman Kevin Martin, these policies are intended to "ensure that the American people have the benefit of a competitive and diverse media marketplace . . . "

Julian Shepard, who chairs the firm's communications practice in Washington, D.C., is an advisor to leading companies and industries. For the past 25 years, he has been involved in many of the most important communications policy debates. He is a 1983 graduate of Indiana University School of Law (Bloomington), and a member of the Federal Communications Bar Association and the District of Columbia Bar.

Williams Mullen is committed to principles of diversity. In addition to promoting a diverse workplace, the firm is proud to represent industry leaders who seek to promote diversity and share its commitment to social responsibility. The Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving equal opportunity and civil rights in the mass media and telecommunications industries. MMTC is generally recognized as the nation's leading advocate for minority advancement in

communications. Williams Mullen is a proud co-sponsor of MMTC's annual conference on access to capital in Washington, DC.

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