

**Media Contact:**

Matthew Berry, (202) 418-2005  
matthew.berry@fcc.gov

**For Immediate Release**

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI**  
*On the Announced Departure of Chairman Tom Wheeler*

WASHINGTON, December 15, 2016.—This morning, Chairman Wheeler announced that he would depart the Federal Communications Commission on January 20, 2017, after leading the agency for more than three years. Like his beloved Ohio State Buckeyes, Chairman Wheeler brought passion and tenacity to the playing field each and every day. Despite our differences in many areas of communications policy, I commend him for his years of public service. It has been a privilege to serve alongside him, and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

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**Office of Commissioner Ajit Pai: (202) 418-2000**  
**Twitter: @AjitPaiFCC**  
**[www.fcc.gov/leadership/ajit-pai](http://www.fcc.gov/leadership/ajit-pai)**

*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).*