

For Immediate Release
September 21, 2015

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Tumblr, Vimeo, Meetup, Kickstarter, Etsy, Union Square Ventures Support the FCC In Defending Net Neutrality as Intervenors in Court, File Opening Arguments

WASHINGTON—Today, Internet Freedom Business Alliance (IFBA) members—Tumblr, Vimeo, Meetup, Kickstarter, Etsy and Union Square Ventures—joined pro-net neutrality groups in filing opening arguments as intervenors in support of the FCC and its Open Internet Order with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in a legal challenge.

In the brief, the intervenors highlighted how the Internet has become an essential platform for innovation, investment, competition, and democratic discourse as well as the importance of unfettered open access. They also demonstrated that the FCC has the right to classify the Internet as a common carrier under Title II based on the Telecommunications Act and strong legal precedent. You can read the brief [here](#).

“Our members are proud to defend the FCC’s Open Internet Order on behalf of the thousands of American creators and innovators who rely on the Internet being an open platform to grow and compete. The FCC’s order does not regulate the Internet, but rather ensures that the pathway to connection is open and fair. We’re confident that the Court will uphold these essential net neutrality rules,” said Lauren Culbertson, Executive Director of the Internet Freedom Business Alliance.

In its Open Internet Order, the FCC reclassified broadband Internet access service as a Title II telecommunications service and implemented strong net neutrality rules—rules that prevent broadband carriers from blocking, throttling, or charging priority fees for Internet traffic within their networks. The order concluded a year-long rulemaking process that saw unprecedented public participation from over 4 million people, companies, and groups who filed comments, overwhelmingly in support of strong net neutrality rules.

Oral arguments are scheduled to take place on December 4, 2015, at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

The Internet Freedom Business Alliance (IFBA) is a coalition of startups, small businesses, and venture investors advocating for strong, enforceable open Internet rules to promote American businesses, jobs, and small business investment.

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