

PRESS RELEASE May 14, 2015 For Immediate Release Contact: Desiree Jaworski 703-909-9936 Center for Safer Wireless

## Awareness is growing in the United States and internationally about the health risks from wireless radiation

This week two significant developments occurred to raise awareness of health risk from wireless radiation that is emitted from cell towers, cell phones, Wi-Fi routers, tablets, laptops and other wireless devices.

On Monday, May 11 2015, the International Electromagnetic Fields(EMF) Scientist Appeal requesting the adoption of more stringent regulatory standards was distributed worldwide. This story was picked up by news agencies around the world. The Appeal's web site, <a href="EMFscientist.org">EMFscientist.org</a>, has had visitors from more than 70 countries, showing what great universal concern there is about electromagnetic fields (EMF) and wireless technology throughout the world.

Center for Safer Wireless' Executive Director, Desiree Jaworski, applauded the appeal and said, "I hope the Federal Communications Commission carefully reviews the Scientist Appeal and chooses to review its own outdated 1996 wireless safety standards for the United States."

The Appeal has been signed by 198 EMF scientists from 39 countries. All have published peer-reviewed research which altogether amount to more than 2,000 studies and papers.

Seventy Non-Government Organizations, including the Center for Safer Wireless, in 14 countries have signed a statement supporting the Appeal. See the <a href="IEMFA web site">IEMFA web site</a> for more information.

These EMF scientists voiced their serious concerns for the well-being of humans and all living creatures from the ever increasing EMF sources (electromagnetic fields and radiofrequency radiation) that we are being exposed to. The appeal asks that the United Nations (UN) and other world leaders adopt more protective EMF standards. It calls upon these leaders to encourage the World Health Organization (WHO) to be a strong leader in developing more protective EMF guidelines and take precautionary measures to reduce EMF exposure worldwide.

The Appeal recommends more information to be given to citizens about the health risks of using electrical and wireless technology and how to reduce their health risks

In another exciting development on Tuesday night - May 12, 2015, the Berkeley Cell Phone "Right to Know" Ordinance was adopted by Berkeley, California.

Berkeley was a leader in enabling citizens to learn about the health risks of tobacco and in 1977 the city

enacted the first clean indoor air law. This was the precedent for other cities to follow. As a result of these legislative efforts, most Americans are protected from secondhand smoke at work and in public areas.

Berkeley is once more setting an example for US cities to follow by adopting a Cell Phone "Right to Know" ordinance. The City Council of Berkeley, California on Tuesday night unanimously voted to require electronics retailers to warn customers about the potential health risks associated with radio-frequency (RF) radiation emitted by cell phones. "If you carry or use your phone in a pants or shirt pocket or tucked into a bra when the phone is ON and connected to a wireless network, you may exceed the federal guidelines for exposure to RF radiation," the notice, which must be displayed in stores that sell cell phones, reads in part. "This potential risk is greater for children. Refer to the instructions in your phone or user manual for information about how to use your phone safely." This ordinance is expected to go into effect in July 2015.

The industry claims the law is unconstitutional "because it would compel wireless retailers to disseminate speech with which they disagree. "A court challenge is expected from the Cellular Telephone Industries Association (CTIA), the wireless industry's trade group. The law "violates the First Amendment because it would compel wireless retailers to disseminate speech with which they disagree," Gerard Keegan, CITA's senior director of state legislative affairs, said in a letter to the council members. "The forced speech is misleading and alarmist because it would cause consumers to take away the message that cell phones are dangerous and can cause breast, testicular, or other cancers."

The Federal Communications Commission regulates radiation levels in communication devices. All of its safety tests have been based on consumers carrying cell phones off of the body such as in holsters. Keeping phones on the body in pockets or bras may cause the tissues to heat and exceed FCC safety guidelines. As a result the FCC requires phone companies to state the minimum distance from the body that users should carry their phones. Unfortunately, it is difficult to find these guidelines. They are usually buried deep inside phones' menus and sub-menus, or in very fine print of user manuals.

Seventy percent of the independent studies and thirty-two percent of the industry studies show biological harm from wireless radiation. This fact alone is enough reason for Berkeley and other cities to take the initiative and inform their citizens what the cell phone instructions say and why they say it.

Desiree Jaworski, Executive Director of the Center for Safer Wireless said, "People don't realize that in addition to cell phones many common wireless household items such as Wi-Fi routers, baby monitors, cordless phones, video game consoles and controllers, computers, Bluetooth devices, smart meters and tablets emit radiofrequency radiation that has been designated as a class 2(b) carcinogen by the WHO. This is in the same class as DDT and exhaust fumes. Most people are surprised when they learn that unless completely powered off, many of these devices continue to emit the radiation even when no one is using them. We are exposing ourselves and our children to possible human carcinogens without realizing that they can harm our brains and bodies. It is time for the citizens to be made aware of the need to be safer with the use of wireless devices. The Berkeley ordinance is hopefully the beginning of a wireless radiation awareness campaign for the US public"

More information about the potential risks of wireless radiation can be found at <a href="https://www.centerforsaferwireless.us">www.centerforsaferwireless.us</a>.

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The Center for Safer Wireless is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the public's understanding of wireless product safety, so that they can make more informed choices about wireless products. The organization engages in educational activities aimed at increasing the public's awareness

of radiofrequency radiation, electromagnetic radiation, and the potential health implications of wireless products and technology. The organization's website is <a href="https://www.centerforsaferwireless.us">www.centerforsaferwireless.us</a>

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