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December 15, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING (ECFS)

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: **NOTIFICATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION**  
*In the Matters of Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities*, CG Docket No. 03-123; *Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program*, CG Docket No. 10-51

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 11, 2014, Scott Freiermuth, Mike Ellis, Dennis Selznick, and Barbara Garcia from Sprint Corporation (“Sprint”) met with Kris Monteith (Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau “CGB”), Karen Strauss (CGB), Greg Hlibok (Disability Rights Office “DRO”), Eliot Greenwald (DRO), Bob Aldrich (DRO), Caitlin Vogus (DRO), and Darryl Cooper (DRO). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Sprint’s efforts to onboard IP Relay users following Purple’s discontinuation of service on November 15, 2014.

Sprint asked for an update on the status of its two recent filings in which it sought a waiver of the speed-of-answer requirement (Waiver Filing)<sup>1</sup> and an adjustment to the IP Relay compensation rate (Rate Filing).<sup>2</sup> Sprint also shared with the Commission the overall effect of Purple’s departure on Sprint including estimates of the number of applicants, the number of newly issued 10-digit numbers, the number of applicants in queue, and the effect on traffic volumes. Sprint also explained that an unanticipated result of this transition is an increase in traditional state relay traffic as people are using TTYs until they become registered/verified to use Sprint IP Relay.

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<sup>1</sup> *In the Matters of Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities*, CG Docket No. 03-123; *Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program*, CG Docket No. 10-51, Request for Emergency Temporary Limited Waiver, filed November 12, 2014 (“Waiver Filing”).

<sup>2</sup> *In the Matters of Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities*, CG Docket No. 03-123; *Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program*, CG Docket No. 10-51, Request for Expedited Mid- Cycle Rate Adjustment, filed November 20, 2014 (“Rate Filing”).

Sprint discussed its current registration/verification process and outlined possible changes designed to streamline the process while ensuring that applicants' identity and residence in the United States are appropriately verified.

Finally, Sprint provided the Commission with an update on its efforts to improve its IP Relay services for deaf-blind users. Sprint has reached out to the deaf-blind community and has begun to implement some of the suggested improvements including a new instant messaging ("IM") conversation format. Sprint is also introducing adjustable font size and color scheme choices to make the Relay application more accessible to low-vision users.

This filing is made in accordance with Section 1.1206(b)(1) of the Commission's rules. In the event that there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Scott R. Freiermuth*

Cc: Karen Strauss  
Greg Hlibok  
Bob Aldrich  
Eliot Greenwald  
Caitlin Vogus  
Darryl Cooper