

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

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| In the Matters of |) | |
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| Telephone Number Requirements For IP-Enabled Service Providers |) | WC Docket No. 07-243 |
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| Local Number Portability Porting Interval Validation Requirements to Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems |) | WC Docket No. 07-244 |
| |) | |
| IP-Enabled Services |) | WC Docket No. 04-36 |
| |) | |
| Telephone Number Portability Service Providers |) | CC Docket No. 95-115 |

**JOINT INITIAL COMMENTS OF THE TEXAS 9-1-1 ALLIANCE AND THE
TEXAS COMMISSION ON STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

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On the comments:
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March 24, 2008

TEXAS COMMISSION ON STATE
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

The Texas 9-1-1 Alliance¹ and the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications² (collectively referred to herein as the “Texas 9-1-1 Agencies”) jointly submit these initial comments to the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission” or “FCC”) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“NPRM”) in the above-referenced dockets,³ which seeks comment on whether the Commission should (1) address other Local Number Portability (LNP) and numbering obligations; (2) adopt rules specifying the length of the porting interval or other details related to the porting process; and (3) adopt rules reducing the porting interval to 48 hours for simple port requests.⁴

I.

The Commission should adopt specific E9-1-1 process obligations or require compliance with industry standards for Local Number Portability to ensure the quality of E9-1-1 database information.

Ensuring that the E9-1-1 information associated with a ported consumer is timely updated and accurate is an important and critical part of the LNP process. In the absence of such accurate E9-1-1 information, a consumer whose service has been ported would

¹ The Texas 9-1-1 Alliance is an interlocal cooperation act entity composed of the Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 772 Emergency Communication Districts with E9-1-1 service public safety responsibility for approximately 50% of the population of Texas. The Texas 9-1-1 Alliance members joining in these comments are: Abilene/Taylor County 9-1-1 District, Austin County Emergency Communications District, Bexar Metro 9-1-1 Network District, Brazos County Emergency Communication District, Calhoun County 9-1-1 Emergency Communication District, Cameron County Emergency Communications District, 9-1-1 Network of East Texas, Denco Area 9-1-1 District, Emergency Communications District of Ector County, Galveston County Emergency Communication District, Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network, Henderson County 9-1-1 Communication District, Howard County 9-1-1 Communication District, Kerr Emergency 9-1-1 Network, Lubbock Emergency Communication District, McLennan County 9-1-1 Emergency Assistance District, Midland Emergency Communications District, Montgomery County Emergency Communication District, Potter-Randall County Emergency Communications District, Smith County 9-1-1 Communications District, Tarrant County 9-1-1 District, Texas Eastern 9-1-1 Network, and Wichita-Wilbarger 9-1-1 District. These districts were created pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 772.

² The Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications is a state agency created pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 771, and is the State of Texas’ authority via statute for 9-1-1 emergency communications.

³ FCC 07-188, released November 8, 2007, 73 Fed Reg 9507, February 21, 2008.

⁴ NPRM at ¶ 4.

not receive the full benefits of LNP. In this regard, inter-modal wireless and nomadic Interconnected VoIP have different impacts on the E9-1-1 Automatic Location Information (ALI) database in that unlike wireline and static Interconnected VoIP, a wireless and nomadic Interconnected VoIP service need not result in creating or maintaining a static E9-1-1 record in the E9-1-1 ALI database.

The National Emergency Number Association (NENA) has adopted E9-1-1 ALI database standards that provide for the Number Portability Direction Indicator (NPDI) field as part of the Local Service Request (LSR) process so that a donor carrier would know how to treat the port for purposes of sending the proper Function of Change code to the E9-1-1 ALI database. The relevant portions of NENA standard 02-011 provide as follows:

22A.6 In an LNP environment using the Location Routing Number (LRN) managed by a Number Portability Administration Center – Service Management System (NPAC-SMS), the recipient SP [Service Provider] upon request to port a telephone number, notifies the donor SP using the industry standard Local Service Request (LSR) form. This allows for appropriate Function of Change code to be sent by the donor SP to the 911 database as defined by NPDI standard.

22D.3 NPDI Standard

In the interest of Public Safety, the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) standard requires that when service is ported to another service provider, the Number Portability Direction Indicator (NPDI) field on the Local Service Request (LSR) be populated with one of the following OBF [Ordering and Billing Forum]-sanctioned values:

A = No record update to the 911 database

- Wireless to Wireless
- VoIP using VPC [VoIP Positioning Center] Database to Wireless
- Wireless to VoIP using VPC Database
- VoIP using VPC Database to VoIP using VPC Database

B = “Insert” Function Code adding wireline TN record to 911 database

- Wireless **TO** Wireline
- VoIP using VPC Database to Wireline
- VoIP using VPC Database to VoIP using ALI Database
- Wireless to VoIP using ALI Database

C = "Delete" Function Code eliminating wireline TN record from 911 database

- Wireline **TO** Wireless
- Wireline to VoIP using VPC Database
- VoIP using ALI Database to VoIP using VPC Database
- VoIP using ALI Database to Wireless

D = "Unlock" & "Migrate" Function Code to identify the new Service Provider (SP) NENA ID in the 911 database

- Wireline **TO** Wireline
- Wireline to VoIP using ALI Database
- VoIP using ALI Database to Wireline
- VoIP using ALI Database to VoIP using ALI Database

It is recommended that all Service Providers include this requirement in their Interconnection Agreements with other Service Providers.

The Commission should adopt in its LNP obligations the foregoing NENA standards to clearly address the issue so that the E9-1-1 ALI database can be accurately maintained.

Regarding static records in the E9-1-1 ALI database, the NENA standards for a normal wireline to wireline porting situation provide for an "unlock" to be sent by the donor company and a "migrate" to be sent by the receiving company in order to associate the consumer's 9-1-1 record with their new provider. The rationale for the process was that, in the traditional wireline situation, it was considered much less likely that a consumer would be moving and that maintaining the E9-1-1 ALI record for some brief period was the better approach for the consumer. In practice, nevertheless, the receiving company sometimes fails to send the "migrate." As a result, the E9-1-1 ALI record then remains in the E9-1-1 ALI database as if service were still being provided by the donor company.

When a consumer may have ported their wireline service to either nomadic Interconnected VoIP or wireless service, it is an appropriate LNP obligation that the E9-1-1 ALI database record does not indefinitely identify the consumer as still having wireline service from the donor company. As such, the Texas 9-1-1 Agencies propose that the Commission should adopt as part of its LNP obligations that, within ten business

days following when the wireline to nomadic Interconnected VoIP or wireless port has actually been completed, a stranded unlock should be deleted from the E9-1-1 ALI database.

II.

Conclusion

The Texas 9-1-1 Alliance and the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications appreciate the opportunity to comment on these issues, and respectfully urge Commission action consistent with these initial comments.

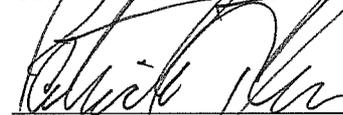
Respectfully submitted,

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