Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected
DEC - 3 2012
FCC Mail Room

CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

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Sincerely,

Name James Laubenthal
Title, if appropriate Father
Address 143 Scott St Ottawa, Ohio
Telephone Number 419-234-5719

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Sincerely,

Name Katha Kinser

Title, if appropriate Daughter

Address 6474 Faircrest Rd. Columbus, Ohio 43229

Telephone Number 614-290-1592 - C
614-895-7991 - H

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Sincerely,

Name James Wallace

Title, if appropriate

Address 338 N. Marion St. Cardington, OH 43315

Telephone Number 740-803-3390

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Sincerely,

Name Crystal Wallace

Title, if appropriate

Address 338 North Marion St. Cardington OH 43315

Telephone Number 740 803-3279

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Sincerely,

Name Craig Jakemiller
Title, if appropriate Brother-in-law
Address 896 Bluff Oak trails
Telephone Number 419-296-1965

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Sincerely,

Name Linda Lakemiller

Title, if appropriate sister

Address 896 Bluff Oak trail 45807.

Telephone Number 419-296-1965

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Sincerely,

Name Jeff Baxter

Title, if appropriate

Address 3875 N. Thayer Rd

Telephone Number 419-792-9279

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Sincerely,

Name Mildred Lauterbach
Title, if appropriate Mother
Address 143 Scott St. Ottawa, Ohio 45875
Telephone Number 419-234-5719

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Sincerely,

Name Nancy Folk (Daughter of hearing Impaired Parent)

Title, if appropriate

Address 2218 Veterans Dr. St. Cloud MN 56303

Telephone Number 320 261-2232

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Sincerely,

Name Robert Folk
Title, if appropriate Son of a Hearing Impaired Person
Address 221 Augusta Ave Brandon, S.D. 57005
Telephone Number (320) 241-0499

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Sincerely,

Name JACK Sadlow

Title, if appropriate

Address 204 S. Broadway Col. Grove, OHIO 45830

Telephone Number 419-659-5126

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Sincerely,

Name Doris Orixin

Title, if appropriate Friend

Address 301 Darkview Ottawa, OH 45875

Telephone Number 419-523-5597

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Sincerely,

Name Nick Jasper

Title, if appropriate

Address 2056 Cannongate Ct Columbus OH 43228

Telephone Number (614) 580-5756

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Sincerely,

Name Ruth Salyers
Ruth Salyers
Title, if appropriate
Address 5647 Warner Pk Dr, Westerville, Oh 43081
Telephone Number 614-245-4897

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If the FCC takes away skilled ASL interpreters and innovative equipment, VRS as we know it today won't exist. This would be a huge step backward for the rights and opportunities of Americans who are deaf and hard-of-hearing.

Sincerely,

Name [illegible]

Title, if appropriate_____

Address [illegible] S. Sunbury, Westerville, Ohio 43081

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

I am writing in response to the Federal Communication Commission's request for comments on the "Structure and practices of the video relay service (VRS) program and on proposed VRS compensation rates." I am very concerned that the changes being considered by the FCC will destroy a program that is vitally important to people who are deaf and hard-of-hearing.

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Sincerely,

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Sincerely,

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Telephone Number 614-898-8191

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CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

I am writing to provide my comments on Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Public Notice on the "Structure and practices of the video relay service (VRS) program and on proposed VRS compensation rates."

I am deaf and VRS is how I stay in touch with my family and friends who are not deaf. I'm sure that hearing people don't think about what it means to be able to pick up the phone and call anyone any time or anywhere they want. But for me, this means everything. VRS has changed my life.

I am alarmed that the FCC is proposing to dramatically change the VRS program. Why is the FCC going out of its way to fix something that isn't broken?

I think there are two crucial reasons to keep the current VRS system in place.

First, I like the company I do business with. I don't want to be forced to switch companies because the one I work with has gone out of business.

Second, I don't want to have to buy and set up my own VRS equipment. I got my equipment at no cost from my VRS provider. They installed it and continue to maintain it. It would be unfair to now shift this burden to me and other deaf people. If the government wants to prevent deaf people from connecting with others and using VRS, this is a good way to do it.

The VRS program works for people who are deaf. It's how we communicate every day with the hearing world and how the hearing world communicates with us. Any changes to the program must be in the best interest of deaf Americans. The changes being considered by the FCC are not.

Sincerely,

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Title, if appropriate

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Sincerely,

Name Natasha Folk Natasha Folk

Title, if appropriate

Address 2718 Veterans Dr St. Cloud, MN 56303

Telephone Number 320.267.0484

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CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

I am writing in response to the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC's) request for comments on the "Structure and practices of the video relay service (VRS) program and on proposed VRS compensation rates." I am very concerned about these proposals and how they will affect my family's safety.

VRS is a lifeline. It allows me to conduct business, connect with my family and friends and do many other things over the phone that many hearing people take for granted. Most important, though, VRS is how I access my local emergency 911 service. In an emergency I know that when I place a 911 call it will be answered immediately. My location will be known. And, specially trained American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters will be there to make sure my local emergency responders know exactly what help I need. You can't imagine how frightening it is to think that I might not be able to get help for me or my family because of long hold times, poorly trained interpreters, or bad equipment.

Cutting the rates paid to VRS providers as low as the FCC proposes will only reduce service quality I currently depend on. How will these companies hire and keep skilled ASL interpreters on staff when the government has just cut what they are willing to pay them by $2 an hour? How will 911 calls be answered immediately when there are fewer interpreters and longer hold times? How will I know that my VRS will work when I'm using a videophone from WalMart instead of the specially designed videophone from my VRS provider?

I hope the FCC has answers to all of the questions before it considers changing the current system.

Sincerely,

Name Teresa Baez

Title, if appropriate DEAF

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Telephone Number 786) 350-2228 VP

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Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners Copps, McDowell, Clyburn, and Baker,

I am a deaf person who uses Video Relay Service over broadband to communicate in American Sign Language, my primary language. For those of us who are deaf, VRS is a life-altering broadband service that is a vital link to the hearing community.

Ensuring that deaf individuals have access to VRS and encouraging improvements in VRS should be a high priority for you as Chairman and Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires the FCC to make available to all deaf individuals nationwide "functionally equivalent" communications.

You will soon determine the future of VRS. When you set the VRS rate, you will determine whether America makes progress toward the statutory goals of functional equivalence, nationwide access, and inclusion – or force deaf users to revert to TTY communications. And, you will determine whether VRS fulfills its potential to drive broadband adoption by the deaf, even in the face of disproportionate poverty, disenfranchisement, and isolation.

I was deeply disturbed to see the Commission's recent Public Notice on VRS rates. These proposals will push VRS providers into bankruptcy and mean an end to VRS.

You should be increasing the availability and use of VRS, not cutting back. You should adopt a rate that encourages continuing improvements in VRS technology. Recent developments in VRS are a good example of how the service can be improved, such as enhanced 911 services, 10-digit numbering, a larger and better-trained pool of interpreters, and better videophones with an array of enhanced features. Monthly payments for broadband are a big expense for many deaf people, and instead of trying to cut back on VRS, you should be exploring ways to make VRS over broadband more affordable to deaf individuals.

Progress toward functional equivalence will be destroyed if the FCC does not encourage VRS providers to improve VRS and make it more widely available. VRS is a recent and dramatic advancement that benefits those who are deaf, but so much more can be done. It would be tragic if the FCC were to destroy this broadband service that is so vital to the deaf.

I urge you to establish a fair and predictable rate for VRS that will encourage VRS providers to invest in improving VRS and reaching more deaf individuals. The law requires it and it is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Signature Jorge L Santos Date 11/26/12

Name JORGE L Santos

Address 535 W 51st ST Apt 1B

City NEW YORK State NY ZIP 10019

Email JLS-broad90@yahoo.com

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Attention: Public Comment

We want to thank you for giving us opportunity to express our concerns about the future VRS.

It has come to my attention that FCC shocks like a volcano the deaf community in regard to its consideration to eliminate VRS (Video Relay Service) including Sorenson, Purple and many other providers in the near future. Vice President of Sorenson scared us via videophones with his strong expressions. Therefore his behavior is still unappreciable and unprofessional.

Frankly I allege FCC of being outsmarted by greedy deaf businessmen due to FCC's careless management. Therefore the big mistake was the result of a poor oversight. As a result FCC has lost a lot of money to them without maintaining strictly to check all companies weekly.

I can understand that FCC wants to clean FCC's own mistakes. I am sure that FCC still complies with Americans with Disabilities Act. Therefore Video Relay Services are of importance to Deaf people due to the most functionally equivalent communication service. As a result deaf people must be treated equally and accessibly.

I still disagree with your first proposal to reinforce us to use "off-the shell" equipment and government-mandated software. It is senseless and unrealistic! You still have not solved the issues without creating a new technology with TV including flashing lights, a list of addresses and movable small camera. For an example the flashing light from end to end on top of TV at the same time that the camera moves upward when called will be positively ideal for deaf people who rely heavily on visualization. I

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believe that you have overlooked the importance of emergency call (911). I am sure that any big companies such as Sony, Toshiba, and others would be happy to design a new technology to meet the deaf reasonable accommodations according to the ADA. Therefore deaf people should not be charged for the new TV with above special features. As suggested, they must be approved and inspected by FCC before they are delivered.

Secondly I still disagree with "no choice in VRS providers". FCC oppresses deaf people because hearing people have better choices than deaf people in providers. FCC must not treat deaf people differently. PLEASE RECONSIDER ABOUT DEAF PEOPLE'S EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AS HEARING PEOPLE! As a result FCC has no right to control over the abilities of deaf people to choose the VRS providers. FCC must be responsible for communicating openly with deaf people in democratic society. Therefore they must work together with deaf people so they can improve themselves.

As a result I strongly disagree with FCC's decision to change too quickly as FCC needs more research on deaf experience life and more time to create an improvement in a new system and technology without an "overnight" change. Therefore FCC must respect our equal access. As a result you must be responsible for improving your management and communication among deaf citizens. As suggested FCC should establish four FCC offices in America so they can provide better services through the better management so they can maintain the updated information and communication among deaf communities.

Thirdly, I completely oppose the rate cuts. The result will damage deaf people's happy and comfortable choices so we will confront the unreliable service and poor quality services. We must have better qualified

interpreters in order to avoid misunderstanding and communication barriers. The services could hurt deaf people's golden opportunity in easy and clear communication via highly qualified interpreters with hearing people. I am concerned that FCC will probably treat deaf people as second citizens. It is unjust and senseless because FCC will limit the deaf people's ability to choose from different providers. Therefore deaf people will not receive luxurious and happy choices like hearing people. As a result FCC's behavior seems like Communist way! As suggested Therefore FCC in four different divisions in US must be responsible for controlling budgets in order to avoid rigid systems.

Hopefully my good feedbacks will be beneficial and helpful.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Fredric R Waldorf

Fredric Waldorf
13224 Meander Cove Drive
Germantown, Maryland 20874
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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
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Sincerely,

Name Jane Baxter

Title, if appropriate

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Sincerely,

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Title, if appropriate

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