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Via Electronic Filing

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Room TW-A325
Washington D.C. 20554

ATTN: David Furth, Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau

Re: Quarterly Progress Report Summarizing the Status of the Voluntary Deployment of a National Text-to-9-1-1 Service Capability (See *In the Matter of Facilitating the Deployment of Text-to-911 and Other Next Generation 911 Applications*, PS Docket No. 11-153; and, *In the Matter of Framework for Next Generation 911 Deployment*, PS Docket No. 10-255.)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As part of the Voluntary Commitment signed by the four largest wireless carriers, Sprint Nextel Corporation (“Sprint”) hereby voluntarily submits its first quarterly progress report summarizing the status of its voluntary deployment of a national text-to-911 service capability.¹ Sprint supports this interim measure as the industry moves forward to a more comprehensive next generation 9-1-1 system.

Before the actual deployment of text-to-911 service occurs, Sprint and the other signatory service providers agreed to implement a bounce-back or “auto-reply” message to alert subscribers attempting to text an emergency message to instead dial 9-1-1 when text-to-911 is unavailable in that area. The signatory service providers committed to implement the bounce-back message by June 30, 2013. Sprint is pleased to report it has fulfilled this particular commitment. Consistent with the conditions and parameters outlined in the Voluntary Commitment, a Sprint subscriber that attempts to text an emergency message should now receive a bounce-back message that states, “*For emergency only, CALL 9-1-1. Text-to-911 not available.*”

Sprint also continues to diligently work toward making text-to-911 service available on or before May 15, 2014, as part of the Voluntary Commitment. Sprint has completed testing and evaluations of various Text Control Center (“TCC”) vendors and intends to make its final vendor

¹ See Letter from Terry Hall, APCO International, Barbara Jaeger, NENA, Charles W. McKee, Sprint Nextel, Robert W. Quinn, Jr, AT&T, Kathleen O’Brien Ham, T-Mobile USA, and Kathleen Grillo, Verizon, to Julius Genachowski, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, and Commissioners McDowell, Clyburn, Rosenworcel and Pai; PS Docket No. 11-153, PS Docket No. 10-255 (Dec. 6, 2012) (the “Voluntary Commitment”).

selection in the near future. At the end of May, Sprint completed a six-month text-to-911 trial utilizing a hypertext transfer protocol secure solution, utilizing web-based routing, with the State of Vermont. As part of the trial agreement with its vendor, since December, 2012, Sprint had been providing a bounce-back message on a trial basis to Sprint subscribers attempting to send a text message to 9-1-1. Sprint also conducted text-to-911 testing with the Mid-America Regional Council utilizing a similar web-based solution and with the State of Maine using a teletypewriter or “TTY” solution during the first quarter of 2013.

Sprint continued its active participation in standards bodies and industry working groups, along with cooperative efforts with public safety answering points across the country. For example, Sprint participated in the text-to-911 workshop at this year’s “911 Goes to Washington” meeting; the ATIS WTSC JSMS911 joint committee with ESIF, which produced joint standard J-STD-110 “ATIS/TIA Native SMS to 9-1-1 Requirements and Architecture Specifications” in March; the SMS-to-911 National Coordination Committee working on public education and implementation procedures; and, various educational and training sessions during the 2013 National NENA Conference. Sprint also responded to requests from, and cooperated with, the following public safety-related entities: Montgomery County, New York Sheriff’s Office; Geauga County, Ohio Sheriff’s Office; Lake County, Ohio; Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency; Florida State Coordinators; Indiana NENA ENP; Texas CSEC Text to 9-1-1 Workshop; Chair of the California Senate Energy, Utilities, and Commerce Committee; Colorado 9-1-1 Resource Center; and, Durham County, North Carolina.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this letter is being electronically filed via ECFS with your office. Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ray Rothermel

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cc: APCO (by e-mail)
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