



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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SPRINT PETITION FOR DECLARATORY RULING REGARDING TRS ACCESS TO 900 PAY-PER-CALL SERVICES VIA 711

CC DOCKET NO. 98-67

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

Comments Due: September 10, 2003

Reply Comments Due: September 25, 2003

On May 27, 2003, Sprint Corporation (Sprint) filed a Petition for Declaratory Ruling requesting that the Commission declare that Sprint's provision of 900 pay-per-call services to end users who access Sprint's relay centers by dialing 711 fully satisfies the requirement that such services be offered by relay providers. The Commission has found that the provision of pay-per-call service through TRS is technically feasible and required as a component of functional equivalency.¹ Additionally, the Commission requires all telecommunications carriers nationwide to implement three-digit, 711, dialing access to all mandatory TRS services.² Sprint's petition contends that pay-per-call services cannot be accessed via 711, because 711 uses a toll-free dialing sequence,³ and pay-per-call sequences cannot be accessed using a toll-free dialing sequence. Therefore, Sprint requests clarification that its provision of a special 900 number (which is provided without charge) in order to use TRS to place a 900 call satisfies the requirement that TRS providers offer such services.

Interested parties may file comments in this proceeding on or before September 10, 2003 and reply comments may be filed on or before September 25, 2003. When filing comments, please reference **CC Docket No. 98-67**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See* Electronic Filing of Documents

¹ *Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, CC Docket No. 98-67, FCC 00-56, 15 FCC Rcd 5140 at ¶ 98 (2000).

² *Use of N11 Codes and Other Abbreviated Dialing Arrangements*, Second Report and Order, CC Docket No. 92-105, FCC 00-257, 15 FCC Rcd 15,188 (2000).

³ *Id.* at ¶ 98 n. 200.

in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 Fed. Reg. 24,121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Services mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Vistrionix, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-B204 Washington, DC 20554.

Parties who choose to file by paper should also submit their comments on diskette. These diskettes should be submitted, along with three paper copies, to: Erica Myers, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability Rights Office, 445 12th Street, SW, Room 6-A432 Washington DC 20554. Such a submission should be on a 3.5 inch diskette formatted in an IBM compatible format using Word 97 or compatible software. The diskette should be accompanied by a cover letter and should be submitted in "read only" mode. The diskette should be clearly labeled with the commenter's name, proceeding (including the lead docket number in this case, CC Docket No. 98-67, type of pleading (comment or reply comment), date of submission, and the name of the electronic file on the diskette. The label should also include the following phrase "Disk Copy - Not an Original." Each diskette should contain only one party's pleadings, preferably in a single electronic file. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which *ex parte* communications are subject to disclosure.

Copies of any subsequently filed documents in this matter will be available for public inspection

and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554. The complete text of this *Public Notice* may be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554, telephone (202) 863-2893, facsimile (202) 863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com.

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For further information, please contact Erica Myers, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability Rights Office, at (202) 418-2429 (voice), (202) 418-0464 (TTY), or e-mail at Erica.Myers@fcc.gov.

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