



# PUBLIC NOTICE

**Federal Communications Commission**  
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**DA 19-1032**

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## **DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATIONS GRANTED FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN ASSETS BY COMBINED PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS, LLC**

**WC Docket Nos. 18-309, 19-182, 19-221**

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) grants the applications<sup>1</sup> filed by Combined Public Communications, LLC (Combined Public) to acquire certain inmate calling services customers and assets from Protocall, LLC (Protocall), Bealls Communications Group, Inc. (Bealls), and Infinity Networks, Inc. (Infinity) (Combined Public, together with Protocall, Bealls, and Infinity, Applicants), pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and sections 63.03-04 of the Commission's rules.<sup>2</sup> Applicants consummated these transactions without prior Commission approval.<sup>3</sup>

Combined Public, a Delaware limited liability company, provides inmate calling services in multiple states. Pursuant to the terms of the consummated transactions, Combined Public acquired customers and assets of Protocall, Bealls, and Infinity in several states in 2017 and 2018 and continues to serve those customers.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Domestic Section 214 Application for the Transfer of Assets Filed by Protocall, LLC and Combined Public Communications, LLC, WC Docket No. 18-309 (filed Oct. 10, 2018) (Protocall Application); Domestic Section 214 Application for the Transfer of Assets Filed by Bealls Communications Group, LLC and Combined Public Communications, LLC, WC Docket No. 19-182 (filed June 25, 2019) (Bealls Application); Domestic Section 214 Application for the Transfer of Assets Filed by Infinity Networks, Inc. and Combined Public Communications, LLC, WC Docket No. 19-221 (filed Aug. 1, 2019) (Infinity Application) (collectively, Applications). The Bureau received no comments in opposition to a grant of the Applications.

<sup>2</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214; 47 CFR §§ 63.03-04.

<sup>3</sup> The Bureau granted Applicants' requests for special temporary authority to authorize Combined Public to continue providing service pending approval of the Applications. See Letter from Lance J.M. Steinhart, Attorney for Applicants, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC Secretary at 1 (grant stamped on Nov. 27, 2018 and subsequently extended) (on file in WC Docket No. 18-309); Letter from Lance J.M. Steinhart, Attorney for Applicants, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC Secretary at 1 (grant stamped on June 26, 2019 and subsequently extended) (on file in WC Docket No. 19-182); Letter from Lance J.M. Steinhart, Attorney for Applicants, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC Secretary at 1 (grant stamped on Aug. 12, 2019) (on file in WC Docket No. 19-221).

<sup>4</sup> Protocall Application at 1-4; Bealls Application at 1-4; Infinity Application at 1-3.

The Bureau finds, upon consideration of the record, that the proposed transactions will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity and, therefore, grants the Applications.<sup>5</sup> Pursuant to section 1.103 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 1.103, the consent granted herein is effective upon the release of the Public Notice. For purposes of computation of time when filing a petition for reconsideration or application for review, or for judicial review of the Commission's decision, the date of “public notice” shall be the release date of this notice.<sup>6</sup>

For further information, please contact Dennis Johnson, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, (202) 418-0809.

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<sup>5</sup> *Implementation of Further Streamlining Measures for Domestic Section 214 Authorizations*, CC Docket No. 01-150, Report and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 5517, 5529, para. 22, 5533, para. 30 (2002). Combined Public has acknowledged and agreed to comply with “all requirements set forth in its Consent Decree that the Federal Communications Commission adopted on October 4, 2019 in File No. EB-IHD-18-00027478.” Letter from Lance J.M. Steinhart, Attorney for Applicants, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC Secretary at 1 (Oct. 10, 2019) (on file in WC Docket No. 18-309); Letter from Lance J.M. Steinhart, Attorney for Applicants, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC Secretary at 1 (Oct. 10, 2019) (on file in WC Docket No. 19-182); Letter from Lance J.M. Steinhart, Attorney for Applicants, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC Secretary at 1 (Oct. 10, 2019) (on file in WC Docket No. 19-221). *See Combined Public Communications, LLC*, File No. EB-IHD-18-00027478, Order and Consent Decree, DA 19-290 (EB 2019) (adopting a Consent Decree to resolve the Enforcement Bureau’s investigation into whether Combined Public failed to properly file certain annual reports and certifications detailing the provision of inmate calling services, and into whether Combined Public violated the Commission’s section 214 transfer of control rules).

<sup>6</sup> 47 CFR § 1.4 (Computation of time).