



NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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REPORT ON INFORMAL CONSUMER COMPLAINTS REGARDING ACCESS TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Washington, D.C. – The Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) announces information regarding informal consumer complaints processed by the Disability Rights Office (DRO) during the fourth quarter of the calendar year 2008. DRO processes informal complaints in the following five categories: (1) access to telecommunications services and equipment (Section 255) (47 U.S.C § 255), (2) telecommunications relay services (TRS) (47 U.S.C § 225), (3) closed captioning (47 C.F.R. § 79.1), (4) accessibility of video programming providing emergency information (47 C.F.R. § 79.2), (5) and hearing aid compatibility (47 U.S.C. § 610).

For the fourth quarter of 2008 (October 01, 2008 through December 31, 2008), DRO received the following number of informal complaints, by subject matter, implicating the Commission's disability access rules: 30 informal complaints raised Section 255 issues; 38 informal complaints raised TRS issues; 80 informal complaints raised closed captioning issues; 4 informal complaints raised accessibility of video programming providing emergency information issues; and 2 informal complaints raised hearing aid compatibility issues.

On February 1, 2008, CGB launched a new database tracking system for informal complaints, the Consumer Complaint Management System (CCMS). CCMS utilizes the Form 2000C for all disability access informal complaints regarding the five categories listed above. Consumers can access this complaint form at: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/form2000c.html>.

The Commission receives many inquiries and complaints that do not involve violations of the Communications Act, a Commission rule, or a Commission order. The existence of a complaint does not necessarily indicate wrongdoing by the company at issue. For more information regarding access to telecommunications for people with disabilities and other related matters, visit the DRO website at: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro>.

A copy of this document will be available during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. This document and copies of subsequently filed documents in this matter may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor at, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554. Customers may contact the Commission's duplicating contractor at their website: www.bcpiweb.com or call 1-800-378-3160 or 202-488-5300.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY). This *News Release* can also be downloaded in Word and Portable Document Format (PDF) at <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/>.

For further information regarding this informal complaint information, contact Cheryl King, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability Rights Office: (202) 418-2284 (voice), (202) 418-0416 (TTY), or e-mail Cheryl.King@fcc.gov.

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