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For Immediate Release

**FCC SETS DECEMBER 17 AS DATE FOR BIDDING IN
EXPERIMENTAL AUCTION OF TOLL FREE NUMBERS**

Public Notice Sets Procedures for First-Ever U.S. Auction of Toll Free Numbers

WASHINGTON, August 1, 2019—The Federal Communications Commission today set December 17 as the date for bidding in its experimental auction of certain sought-after toll free numbers in the 833 code.

For the first time, the FCC is using an auction mechanism to assign toll free numbers. The auction will include approximately 17,000 numbers in the 833 toll free code for which there have been multiple, competing requests. Many of these numbers are easy to remember, such as 833-LAWYERS or 833-333-3333.

In addition to setting the date for the auction, a Public Notice adopted by the FCC today establishes other key dates and deadlines for those interested in participating, and sets procedures for the auction, including the following:

- Application requirements, including disclosures and certifications, as well as prohibitions and restrictions on applicants, which will promote auction integrity.
- Bidding procedures, including upfront payments, bidding format and period, and payments due in case of default.
- Post-auction procedures, including payment deadlines and toll free number reservation requirements.

The auction will be conducted by the Toll Free Numbering Administrator, Somos. Inc.

The FCC will study the results of the auction to assess how best to distribute future toll free numbers equitably and efficiently. Previously, toll free numbers were assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Action by the Commission August 1, 2019 by Public Notice (FCC 19-75). Chairman Pai, Commissioners O’Rielly, Carr, Rosenworcel, and Starks approving. Chairman Pai and Commissioner O’Rielly issuing separate statements.

AU Docket No. 19-101; WC Docket No. 17-192; CC Docket No. 95-155

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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).