November 28, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TWA325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentations, CC Docket No. 95-116; WC Docket No. 07-149; WC Docket No. 09-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, November 25, 2014, Neustar, Inc. representatives Lisa Hook, President and CEO; Leonard Kennedy, Senior Vice President and General Counsel; Robert Strickland, Chief Technical Officer (by telephone); Rodney Joffe, Senior Vice President, Senior Technologist and Fellow; Terri Claffey, Senior Policy Advisor, Law and Public Policy; and Neustar counsel Stewart Baker of Steptoe & Johnson, Michael Sussmann of Perkins Coie, and Michele Farquhar of Hogan Lovells (collectively, “Neustar”) met with Rear Admiral (ret.) David Simpson, Chief of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (“PSHSB”), Gregory Intoccia, Allan Manuel, Jane Kelly (by telephone), and Kenneth Burnley (by telephone) of PSHSB, and Sanford Williams (by telephone) and Rachel Kazan of the Wireline Competition Bureau to discuss gaps relating to national security, law enforcement and public safety that require attention before the Commission acts on the recommendation of the NANC.

Neustar began by noting that the LNPA selection process provides the first opportunity for the government to ensure that the NIST Cybersecurity Framework is utilized in major changes to national infrastructure, and for the FCC to show its commitment to implementing this Framework. The representatives distributed a copy of a report commissioned by the Chertoff Group which previously had been filed with the Commission. The report compared the NIST Framework to the RFP requirements. The report demonstrated that 74 of the 98 elements in the Framework were not addressed in the RFP. The attendees recommended using the Framework to spur competition on security elements will best protect the national security, law enforcement and public safety community’s use of this critical platform.

The meeting attendees also addressed the necessity of ensuring, before the Commission acts on the recommendation of the NANC, that any potential transition does not disrupt the Local Number Portability Enhanced Analytical Platform (“LEAP”), because LEAP is not an NPAC service and therefore transition obligations contained in the NPAC Master Agreement and related documents do not apply to LEAP. Neustar reminded the FCC that the RFP failed to: address how this proprietary service would be transitioned to a new provider,
specify performance requirements, explain how or when a transition would take place, or establish a plan for law enforcement to test and certify a new LEAP platform. In addition, any switch in LNPA providers could be especially challenging if, as expected, Ericsson transitioned the number portability system in stages, which could require law enforcement and national security entities to connect to two different LEAP systems simultaneously.

The participants also raised the serious negative impact that a flawed LNPA transition could have on 9-1-1 services. For example, Neustar has provided Port PS, a free, proprietary service, to 9-1-1 providers for the past eight years, allowing them to quickly update and reconcile location information after a telephone number has been ported and ensure that emergency services can accurately determine a caller’s location. Despite the importance of this service, which is used thousands of times a day, it was not mentioned in the RFP. Neustar also reminded the FCC that the NPAC connects to more than 2000 carriers and contains over 650 million telephone numbers, any one of which could require emergency services at any time, and all of which depend on PSAP access to reliable location information. In that context, Neustar noted the relevance of the FCC’s recently launched rulemaking proceeding on ensuring greater 9-1-1 reliability, recommending that the same questions should be raised in an LNPA selection proceeding to ensure that any LNPA transition does not result in nationwide 9-1-1 disruptions.

Neustar concluded by noting that the dangers to law enforcement, public safety and national security services posed by a hurried LNPA transition are pressing and real. To address critical issues that have been omitted during the selection process, Neustar urged the Commission to adopt an amended RFP and require both potential vendors—Ericsson and Neustar—to establish their ability to comply with the NIST framework, maintain and administer the LEAP database, and ensure the continued accuracy of 9-1-1 services.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission’s rules, I am filing this notice electronically in the above-referenced dockets. Please contact me directly with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michele Farquhar

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