June 25, 2015

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Electronic cc: David Schmidt, Karen Peltz Strauss and Gregory Hlibok

Re: Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, CG Docket No. 03-123; Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program, CG Docket No. 10-51; Notice of Ex parte Meeting

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 24, 2015, Jeremy Jack (Vice President of CAAG VRS (“CAAG”)) participated in a meeting in person or by phone with Federal Communications Commission (“FCC” “Commission”) attendees David Schmidt (TRS Fund Program Manager, Office of the Managing Director (“OMD”)), Gregory Hlibok (Chief, Disability Rights Office (“DRO”), Consumer and Government Affairs Bureau (“CGB”)), Andrew Mulitz (Attorney, DRO), Rosaline Crawford (Attorney, DRO), Daryl Cooper (Attorney, DRO), Bob Aldrich (Legal Advisor, CGB) and Caitlin Vogus (Attorney, DRO) to discuss the following items with the Commission:

1) CAAG expressed deep concern over the impact of upcoming and scheduled rate cuts on the VRS industry, particularly for the three newest and smallest providers including CAAG, and the lack of action taken by the FCC in response to the United Providers Joint Proposal1.

2) CAAG updated the Commission on VRS for the Deaf-Blind (“VRSdb”) including a) a potential rate differential associated with increased operations cost of providing VRSdb, b) CAAG’s strong support of the use of Support Service Providers (“SSP”) to achieve greater functional equivalence for Deaf-Blind consumers who use American Sign Language (“ASL”) as their primary mode of communication and the need to establish associated regulation and rate compensation, and c) the process for Deaf-Blind consumers to set up and use VRSdb.

3) CAAG discussed the potential benefits of the Video Access Technology Reference Platform (“VATRP”) for the industry.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Jeremy M. Jack
Vice President of CAAG VRS

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