

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

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In re: ) Chapter 11  
)  
FOCAL COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION, et al.,<sup>1</sup> ) Case No. 02-13709 (KJC)  
) (Jointly Administered)  
Debtors. )  
)  
)

AUS \_\_\_\_\_  
CAF \_\_\_\_\_  
CMP \_\_\_\_\_  
COM \_\_\_\_\_  
CTR \_\_\_\_\_  
ECR \_\_\_\_\_  
GCL \_\_\_\_\_  
OPC \_\_\_\_\_  
MMS \_\_\_\_\_  
SEC \_\_\_\_\_  
OTH None

**NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF CHAPTER 11 BANKRUPTCY CASES,  
MEETING OF CREDITORS AND FIXING OF CERTAIN DATES**

On December 19, 2002 the above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession in the above-captioned cases (collectively, the "Debtors") filed voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101 through 1330 (the "Bankruptcy Code"). The Debtors, and their respective addresses, case numbers and federal tax identification numbers are as follows:

<b>DEBTOR</b>			
<b>(Other names, if any, used by the Debtor in the last 6 years appear in brackets)</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>CASE NO.</b>	<b>EID #</b>
Focal Communications Corporation	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13709	36-4167094
Focal Communications Corporation of California	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13717	36-4128832
Focal Communications Corporation of Colorado	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13720	36-4246239
Focal Communications Corporation of Connecticut	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13722	36-4476523
Focal Communications Corporation of Florida	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13725	36-4202978
Focal Communications Corporation of Georgia	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13727	36-4246246
Focal Communications Corporation of Illinois	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13729	36-4081278
Focal Communications Corporation of Massachusetts	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13731	36-4128824
Focal Communications Corporation of Michigan	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13732	36-4203095
Focal Communications Corporation of the Mid-Atlantic	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13734	36-4197370
Focal Communications Corporation of Minnesota	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13736	36-4287773
Focal Communications Corporation of Missouri	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13738	36-4246247
Focal Communications Corporation of New England	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13739	81-0577918
Focal Communications Corporation of New Jersey	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13741	36-4128826
Focal Communications Corporation of New York	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13737	36-4128831
Focal Communications Corporation of Ohio	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13742	36-4244644
Focal Communications Corporation of Pennsylvania	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13724	36-4187401
Focal Communications Corporation of Texas	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13728	36-4246248
Focal Communications Corporation of Virginia	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13743	36-4197372
Focal Communications Corporation of Washington	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13735	36-4202514
Focal Communications Corporation of Wisconsin	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13740	36-4244645
Focal Financial Services, Inc.	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13711	36-4260494

<sup>1</sup> The Debtors are the following entities: Focal Communications Corporation, Focal Communications Corporation of California, Focal Communications Corporation of Colorado, Focal Communications Corporation of Connecticut, Focal Communications Corporation of Florida, Focal Communications Corporation of Georgia, Focal Communications Corporation of Illinois, Focal Communications Corporation of Massachusetts, Focal Communications Corporation of Michigan, Focal Communications Corporation of the Mid-Atlantic, Focal Communications Corporation of Minnesota, Focal Communications Corporation of Missouri, Focal Communications Corporation of New England, Focal Communications Corporation of New Jersey, Focal Communications Corporation of New York, Focal Communications Corporation of Ohio, Focal Communications Corporation of Pennsylvania, Focal Communications Corporation of Texas, Focal Communications Corporation of Virginia, Focal Communications Corporation of Washington, Focal Communications Corporation of Wisconsin, Focal Financial Services, Inc., Focal International Corp., Focal Telecommunications Corporation, Focal Equipment Finance, LLC and Focal Fiber Leasing, LLC

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Focal International Corp	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13723	36-4308954
Focal Telecommunications Corporation	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13745	36-4128833
Focal Equipment Finance, LLC	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13730	36-4386768
Focal Fiber Leasing, LLC	200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601	02-13733	36-4400227

**DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF MEETING OF CREDITORS.** February 19, 2003 at 12:00 noon prevailing Eastern time, J. Caleb Boggs Federal Courthouse, 844 King Street, Room 2112, Wilmington, Delaware 19801.

**DEADLINE TO FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM.** Notice of a deadline will be sent at a later time.

**NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF TRUSTEE.** None appointed to date.

**COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTORS:**

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Facsimile: (302) 652-4400

**COMMENCEMENT OF CASES.** Petitions for reorganization under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code have been filed in this Court by the Debtors listed above, and orders for relief have been entered. You will not receive notice of all documents filed in these cases. All documents filed with the Court, including lists of the Debtors' property and debts, are available for inspection at the Office of the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court. In addition, such documents may be available at [www.deb.uscourts.gov](http://www.deb.uscourts.gov).

**PURPOSE OF CHAPTER 11 FILING.** Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code enables a debtor to reorganize pursuant to a plan. A plan is not effective unless approved by the Court at a confirmation hearing. Creditors will be given notice concerning any plan, or in the event the case is dismissed or converted to another chapter of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors will remain in possession of their property and will continue to operate any business unless a trustee is appointed.

**CREDITORS MAY NOT TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS.** A creditor is anyone to whom a debtor owes money or property. Under the Bankruptcy Code, a debtor is granted certain protection against creditors. Common examples of prohibited actions by creditors are contacting a debtor to demand repayment, taking action against a debtor to collect money owed to creditors or to take property of a debtor, and starting or continuing foreclosure actions or repossessions. If unauthorized actions are taken by a creditor against a debtor, the Court may penalize that creditor. A creditor who is considering taking action against a debtor or the property of a debtor should review section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code and may wish to seek legal advice. The staff of the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court are not permitted to give legal advice.

**MEETING OF CREDITORS.** The Debtors' representative, as specified in Rule 9001(5) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), is required to appear at the meeting of creditors on the date and at the place set forth above for the purpose of being examined under oath. Attendance by creditors at the meeting is welcomed, but not required. At the meeting, the creditors may examine the Debtors and transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting. The meeting may be continued or adjourned from time to time by notice at the meeting, without further written notice to the creditors.

**CLAIMS.** Schedules of creditors will be filed pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1007. Any creditor holding a scheduled claim which is not listed as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated as to amount may, but is not required to, file a proof of claim in these cases. Creditors whose claims are not scheduled or whose claims are listed as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated as to amount and who desire to participate in the cases or share in any distribution must file their proofs of claim. A creditor who desires to rely on the schedule of creditors has the responsibility for determining that the claim is listed accurately. **Separate notice of the deadlines to file proofs of claim and proof of claim forms will be provided to the Debtors' known creditors.** Proof of claim forms also are available in the clerk's office of any bankruptcy court. Proof of claim forms are also available from the Court's web site at [www.deb.uscourts.gov](http://www.deb.uscourts.gov).

**DISCHARGE OF DEBTS.** Confirmation of chapter 11 plan may result in a discharge of debts, which may include all or part of your debt. See Bankruptcy Code § 1141(d). A discharge means that you may never try to collect the debt from the debtor, except as provided in the plan.

For the Court: /s/ David D. Bird

Dated: 1/30/03