## **Dulaney L. O'Roark III**Vice President & General Counsel, Southeast Region

Vice President & General Counsel, Southeast Region Legal Department



5055 North Point Parkway Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

Phone 678-259-1449 Fax 678-259-1589 de.oroark@verizon.com

March 11, 2009 - VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ann Cole, Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 080278-TL

Joint Petition for show cause proceedings against Verizon Florida LLC for apparent violation of Rule 24-4.070, F.A.C., service availability, and impose fines, by the Office of the Attorney General, Citizens of the State of Florida, and AARP

Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter is Verizon Florida LLC's Response to Motion to Convene Scheduling Conference. Service has been made as indicated on the Certificate of Service. If there are any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (678) 259-1449.

Sincerely,

s/ Dulaney L. O'Roark III

Dulaney L. O'Roark III

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**Enclosures** 

## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Joint Petition for show cause proceedings ) against Verizon Florida LLC for apparent violation of ) Rule 24-4.070, F.A.C., service availability, and impose fines, by the Office of the Attorney General, ) Citizens of the State of Florida, and AARP

Docket No. 080278-TL Filed: March 11, 2009

## VERIZON FLORIDA LLC'S RESPONSE TO MOTION TO CONVENE SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

Verizon Florida LLC ("Verizon") does not oppose the motion filed by the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC") to convene a scheduling conference. The parties disagree sharply about how this case should be structured: OPC and Staff simply want more time to conduct discovery and prepare pre-filed testimony, while Verizon has requested that the case be bifurcated so the Commission may address potentially dispositive jurisdictional issues before (if necessary) it reaches the merits. As explained in Verizon's Motion to Modify Order Establishing Procedure, Bifurcate Proceeding and Suspend Discovery Not Related to Jurisdictional Issues, bifurcation makes sense here because the Commission should determine whether it has jurisdiction over this dispute before taking evidence on the underlying claims, and because addressing jurisdiction first will save the Commission and parties a good deal of time and effort. Verizon has no objection to discussing its motion and the issues raised by the other parties at a scheduling conference if the Prehearing Officer would find it helpful to hear from the parties before deciding how to proceed.

Respectfully submitted on March 11, 2009.

By: s/ Dulaney L. O'Roark III
Dulaney L. O'Roark III
P. O. Box 110, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor

MC FLTC0007

Tampa, Florida 33601-0110 678-259-1449 (telephone) 813-204-8870 (facsimile)

Attorney for Verizon Florida LLC

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of the foregoing were sent via electronic mail on March 11, 2009 to:

Adam Teitzman, Staff Counsel Lee Eng Tan, Staff Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 ateitzma@psc.state.fl.us ltan@psc.state.fl.us

Bill McCollum/Cecilia Bradley
Office of Attorney General
The Capitol – PL01
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050
cecilia\_bradley@myfloridalegal.com

J. R. Kelly
Patricia Christensen
Charles Beck
Office of Public Counsel
c/o The Florida Legislature
111 West Madison Street, Room 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400
kelly.jr@leg.state.fl.us
beck.charles@leg.state.fl.us

Michael B. Twomey
AARP
P. O. Box 5256
Tallahassee, FL 32314-5256
miketwomey@talstar.com

s/ Dulaney L. O'Roark III