

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

**FILED**

08-03-12
08:00 AM



Dr. Michael Karr,

Complainant

vs.

Case No. C. 12-07-016

(Filed July 20, 2012)

Verizon California, Inc. (U1002C), and
Metropolitan Telecomm of Calif., Inc.
(U6568C),

Defendants

INSTRUCTIONS TO ANSWER NOTICE to Defendants:

<p>Verizon California Inc. (U1002C) Attn: Jesus Roman, Esq 2535 W. Hillcrest Drive, 2nd Floor Newbury Park, CA 91320 T-805-499-6832 jesus.roman@verizon.com</p>	<p>Metropolitan Telecomm of Calif. Inc. (U6568C) Attn: Andoni Economou, Vice President 44 Wall St., 14th Floor New York NY 10005 T-212-607-2004 aeconomou@mettel.net</p>
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Pursuant to Rule 4.3 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, this is the electronically filed Instructions to Answer Notice from the Docket Office of the California Public Utilities Commission. You are hereby notified that the above-entitled Complaint has been filed against you as defendants on **July 20, 2012**. You are directed to answer the Complaint in writing **within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice** in compliance with Rule 4.4. Your **verified answer** shall be filed electronically at <http://efile.cpuc.ca.gov/thin/cp.exe> or if in paper form, sent to the California Public Utilities Commission, Attn.: Docket Office, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

This matter has been assigned to **Commissioner Catherine J.K. Sandoval** and **Administrative Law Judge Darwin Farrar**. It has been determined that the complaint will be categorized as **Adjudicatory**. A Prehearing Conference will be scheduled by the assigned Administrative Law Judge, unless the matter is otherwise resolved by the parties.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S) ONLY:

Please acknowledge your receipt of this Notice within 24 hours of receipt by completing the enclosed **Notice and Acknowledgement of Receipt** form and returning it as an Attachment to an Email addressed to Martin Nakahara (mmn@cpuc.ca.gov) or to Annalissa A. Herbert (ajh@cpuc.ca.gov) in the Docket Office or by mail to the Docket Office in the self-addressed envelope provided. A self-addressed envelope is provided only if you were served by First Class U.S. mail or by Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested.

It may be possible to resolve this matter through the Commission's Alternative Dispute Resolution Program. Please see the enclosed information on the ADR Program or go the ADR link on the Commission's website (www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/adr/).

If you have any questions regarding any matter addressed here, please call the Docket Office at (415) 703-1929/1927.

Dated at San Francisco, California on August 3, 2012.

/s/ KAREN V. CLOPTON

KAREN V. CLOPTON
Chief Administrative Law Judge

KVC/mmn

Enclosures: As specifically identified in the Certificate of Service attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

cc: Cmmr. **Sandoval** & ALJ **Farrar** via email only.

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Alternative Dispute Resolution Program (ADR)

ADR commonly describes processes, such as facilitation, negotiation, mediation, and early neutral evaluation, to help disputants resolve a conflict without a formal decision by a court or agency. When successful, ADR may achieve results that a court or agency could not order, give the parties more ownership in the result, and reduce litigation and agency costs.

Our Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Division administers the ADR program and trained, experienced ALJs serve as neutrals in the program.

Because ADR focuses on the parties' basic interests, a dispute may be settled on terms more favorable to each of the parties. Since the process is voluntary, free, and normally confidential, parties have little "down-side" risk in trying ADR. If it results in a full settlement, ADR may save time and litigation expenses. Even if a complete settlement is not possible, agreement may be reached on some important points and this, also, may save time.

ADR can occur at any time during a formal proceeding. We encourage the early use of ADR to save the parties' time and money and to avoid unnecessary escalation of a dispute. On occasion, ADR may be available to help resolve disputes that are still informal and have yet to be filed as formal complaints. Most ADR sessions are completed in ½ to 2 days. Some ADR sessions continue over several weeks, with the parties meeting for a day or two at a time.

For additional information visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/ADR/.

4.4. (Rule 4.4) Answers

The answer must admit or deny each material allegation in the complaint and shall set forth any new matter constituting a defense. Its purpose is to fully advise the complainant and the Commission of the nature of the defense. At least one of the defendants filing an answer must verify it, but if more than one answer is filed in response to a complaint against multiple defendants, each answer must be separately verified. (See Rule 1.11.)

The answer should also set forth any defects in the complaint which require amendment or clarification. Failure to indicate jurisdictional defects does not waive these defects and shall not prevent a motion to dismiss made thereafter.

The answer must state any comments or objections regarding the complainant's statement on the need for hearing, issues to be considered and proposed schedule. The proposed schedule shall be consistent with the categorization of the proceeding, including a deadline for resolving the proceeding within 12 months or less (adjudicatory proceeding) or 18 months or less (ratesetting or quasi-legislative proceeding). (See Article 7.)

Answers must include the full name, address, and telephone number of defendant and the defendant's attorney, if any, and indicate service on all complainants.

(END OF RULE 4.4)