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PRESS RELEASE

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**CPUC REMINDS CONSUMERS IN THE 760/442 AREA CODE OF NEW
DIALING PROCEDURES**

SAN FRANCISCO, October 13, 2009 -- The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today reminded consumers in the 760 area code that due to the new 442 area code overlay, they must dial 1 + area code + telephone number beginning October 24, 2009. This means that since two area codes will now serve the same geographic region, all calls in the 760 or 442 area codes need to be dialed using 1+ area code + telephone number (if using a landline). Those dialing from a cell phone do not need to dial 1 before the area code.

On October 16, 2008, the CPUC approved an all-services overlay that added a new 442 area code to the same geographic region as the existing 760 area code in order to provide additional telephone numbers to meet consumer demand.

The 760/442 area codes cover nearly one-third of California geographically – from the eastern and southern Sierra Nevada of Inyo and Mono Counties, through Death Valley National Park and the Mojave Desert to the Nevada and Arizona state lines, then further south to the Mexican border, and including major parts of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Imperial Counties as well as northern San Diego County.

After October 24, 2009, if consumers do not use the dialing procedure described above, their call will not be completed and a recording will instruct them to hang up and dial again.

Consumers should ensure that their automatic dialing equipment or other types of equipment that are programmed with a 7-digit telephone number are reprogrammed to use the new dialing procedure. Some examples are life safety systems, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, alarm and security systems, gates, speed dialers, mobile phone contact lists, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, and similar functions. Consumers should also check their website, business stationery,

advertising materials, personal checks, contact information, and their pet or personal ID tags to ensure the area code is included.

As a result of the overlay, a consumer's existing telephone number, including current area code, will not change, nor will the cost of a telephone call, coverage area, or other rates and services. A local call will remain a local call regardless of the number of digits dialed.

Consumers can still dial just three digits to reach 911, as well as 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711, and 811.

Beginning November 21, 2009, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers with the new 442 area code.

To complete calls from a cellular or mobile phone, callers may dial the area code + telephone number or 1 + area code and telephone number whenever placing a call from a phone number with the 760 or 442 area code.

For more information on the 760/442 area codes, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/Telco/generalInfo/Area+Codes/818+Area+Code.htm.

For more information on communications issues, please visit www.CalPhoneInfo.com.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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