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Joseph A. Post Deputy General Counsel — New York



June 12, 2013

Honorable Jeffrey C. Cohen Acting Secretary New York State Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223-0350

Re: Case 13-C-0197

Dear Secretary Cohen:

Verizon New York Inc. hereby files a newly-revised version of the Terms of Service for its offering of Voice Link on the western portion of Fire Island.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph a. Post

Joseph A. Post

Peter McGowan, Esq. Mr. Michael Corso Mr. Chad G. Hume Active Parties

#### VERIZON VOICE LINK®TERMS OF SERVICE

Welcome to Verizon Voice Link Service.

Please read this agreement carefully before filing it in a safe place for future reference.

In this Agreement ("Agreement"), "you" and "your" mean the customer of Verizon Voice Link Service ("Service(s)") defined below, and "Verizon," "we," "our," and "us" mean Verizon New York Inc., the company that is providing you with Service. You acknowledge that you are 18 years of age or older, and you agree that you have the legal authority to enter into this Agreement and affirm that the information you supply to us is correct and complete. Providing false or incorrect information may result in Service provisioning delays or the inability of a 911-dialed call to be correctly routed to emergency response center personnel.

This Agreement incorporates the terms of your Calling Plan, which is the specific Plan that you chose to purchase from among the Calling Plans available for the Service. Your Calling Plan includes your monthly service allowances, features and pricing. To the extent that there is a conflict between this Agreement and your Calling Plan, the terms in your Calling Plan will govern. The terms of each of the Calling Plans available for the Service, including your Calling Plan, are available online at **[[URL TO BE PROVIDED]].** 

Certain sections of this Agreement refer to the "Tariff," for example by stating that a particular term of the Agreement is "as set forth in" or "in accordance with" the Tariff. "Tariff" means the relevant provisions of Verizon Tariff PSC No. 1, Section 1, as amended from time to time. The Tariff is available online at <a href="http://www22.verizon.com/tariffs/">http://www22.verizon.com/tariffs/</a>. Such references are intended only to incorporate the text of the applicable provision(s) of the Tariff as if they had been set forth verbatim in this document, and thus to make the substance of those provisions binding and enforceable under applicable contract law as terms of this Agreement. Such incorporation is not intended in any way to make this Agreement part of the Tariff.

Where the Service is the only Verizon voice service available to you, if required by applicable law or regulation, (a) Verizon will adhere to any requirements relating to customer protection, customer complaints, service quality, safety and reliability that apply to tariffed local exchange service; and (b) in the event of a conflict between any term herein and such requirements, such requirements shall govern except to the extent Verizon is permitted by the Public Service Commission or other court or agency with jurisdiction to modify such requirements as they apply to the Service.

This Agreement becomes binding when you accept this Agreement. You accept this Agreement and Verizon's terms and charges when you subscribe to, use or pay for the Services or tell us orally or through written or electronic means that you accept the Agreement.

IF YOU DO NOT AGREE TO THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS, DO NOT USE THE SERVICE AND CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY TO TERMINATE IT. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SERVICE UNTIL THE SERVICE CANCELLATION DATE.

#### 1) SERVICE DESCRIPTION

- a) Verizon Voice Link Service is a wireless voice service that provides unlimited domestic nationwide calling. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Service" shall mean Verizon Voice Link Service, including all software, equipment and other features, products and services provided by Verizon under your Calling Plan.
- b) The Service is not compatible with fax machines, DVR services, credit card machines, medical alert or other monitoring services or High Speed or DSL Internet services.
- c) If the Service Device (the "Device") is connected to a cordless phone base station, any extension phones compatible with that base station can also use the Service. If the Device is installed by a Verizon technician, the installation process will confirm that jacks utilized for telephone service within the home at the time of installation are functional with the Service.
- d) The Device may not be compatible with certain monitored home security systems. Please check with your home security system provider to confirm the compatibility requirements of your home security system.
- e) The Device must be connected to cordless or corded telephone hardware, as described in the Welcome Package. Never place any USB or other connector into the USB port of the Device under any circumstances. Doing so may damage the Device and negate its warranty. The USB port is designed for diagnostic purposes only, and is not intended for customer use.
- f) The Service requires 10-digit dialing.
- g) The Service does not allow the Customer to make 500, 700, 900, 950, 976, 0, 00, 01, 0+, calling card or dial-around calls (e.g., 10-10-XXXX). The Service does not allow the Customer to accept collect calls or third number billed calls. The Company will not bill any charges on behalf of other carriers. You must have an International Calling Plan in order to make international calls.
- h) The Service is subject to the availability of adequate wireless coverage throughout your home, and is not available in all locations. Verizon will initially verify that adequate coverage is available at the location where the Device is placed in your home.

### 2) SERVICE USE AND LIMITATIONS; CUSTOMER OBLIGATIONS

- a) Use of Service. You agree that the use of the Service, without limitation, is your sole responsibility, is at your own risk, and is subject to all applicable local, state, national and international laws and regulations. This includes the use of the Service by others, with or without your permission. You may not resell, assign or otherwise transfer the Service or Agreement to any other person for any purpose, or make any change for the use of the Service, without express written permission from Verizon in advance.
- b) Loss of Service Due to Power Failure. You are responsible for providing the commercial power necessary for the Service to operate. The Device includes a rechargeable battery back-up that provides up to 36 hours of standby power for your

Service with up to 2.5 hours of talk time in the event of a commercial power outage. After the battery is exhausted, the Service (including 911 dialing) will not function until power is restored. In addition, if the landline phone to which the Device is connected requires external electrical power to operate, the Service (including 911dialing) will not be available during a power outage even if the back-up battery is functional. A power failure or disruption may require you to reset or reconfigure equipment prior to using the Service.

- c) International Calling, Directory Listings and Directory Assistance. The current charges and rates for directory listings, international calling and directory assistance, as well as the available options, terms and conditions for these services can be found by logging into My Verizon at <a href="www.verizon.com">www.verizon.com</a>. We may require that you provide us your consent in the form we specify before including your phone number(s) in our directory or directory assistance service. By agreeing to list your phone number(s) in Verizon's directory and/or directory assistance, you will be consenting to have your number included in a publicly available directory and your telephone number may be sold or licensed as part of a list of customers in accordance with applicable laws. Information on current rates is also available from Verizon Customer Service at 1-800-VERIZON (1-800-837-4966).
- d) For additional technical information on the Device, please see the Product Safety and Information booklet that you received with your Device. We will provide a one year replacement warranty for the battery back-up included with your Device. After the expiration of the one year period, you are responsible for replacing the back-up battery as needed.
- e) Notice of Changes. You agree to promptly notify Verizon whenever your personal or billing information changes (including, for example, your name, address, Email address, telephone number, and credit card number and expiration date). FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF ANY NAME OR ADDRESS CHANGES COULD RESULT IN THE FAILURE OR DELAY OF THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO A 911 CALL. You acknowledge and agree that Verizon will be sending you notices and information about the Service and your account via Email or as provided in Section 5 below.
- f) Ownership of Device. You acknowledge and agree that at all times ownership of the Device shall remain with us and that this Agreement allows you to use the Device only in connection with your receipt and use of the Service. We will repair and maintain the Device owned by us at our expense, unless such repair or maintenance is made necessary due to misuse, abuse or intentional damage to the Device, in which case you will be financially responsible for the repair or replacement of the damaged Device. You also agree that the Device will not be serviced by anyone other than our employees or our designated agents or representatives. Except as otherwise instructed by Verizon, upon termination of the Service you are responsible for returning the Device to us in an undamaged condition. Failure to return the Device within 30 days as instructed by Verizon, or returning the Device in a damaged condition (subject only to reasonable wear and tear), may result in our charging you an unreturned equipment fee. If instructed by Verizon to leave the Device in place, then you must not remove the Device and you will not be charged an unreturned equipment fee as long as the Device is left in place in reasonable condition (subject only to reasonable wear and tear).

#### 3) REVISIONS TO TERMS AND PRICING

From time to time, we may revise the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the prices for the Service. Such revisions will be subject to the provisions of Section 1(C)(3) of the Tariff. Increases to the prices or material revisions to the Agreement shall be effective no sooner than 30 days after we provide notice to you in accordance with Section 5 below. If you do not agree to Verizon's revision(s), you must terminate your Service immediately in accordance with this Agreement. By continuing to use the Service after revisions are in effect, you accept and agree to all revisions.

# 4) PRICING AND PAYMENT

- a) Prices and Fees. You agree to pay us for the Service at the prices and charges that are billed to you. Billing for the Service will begin automatically upon activation of the Service. Monthly recurring charges will be billed one month in advance. The charges for any particular call will depend on a number of factors which include, for example, your Calling Plan, call duration, and type of call (e.g., domestic or international). International calls to certain types of phone numbers (e.g., mobile numbers) may be subject to additional charges. If you activate certain features, such as three-way calling or call forwarding, additional per minute or international charges may be incurred. You will be charged for calls forwarded to international numbers as though the forwarded calls originated from your Voice Link Service. All charges due are payable in immediately available U.S. dollars.
- b) Call rounding/detail. For Calling Plans with per minute measured usage, including international dialing, all calls are rounded up to the next highest minute and billed accordingly. Your call detail may not appear on your monthly paper bill or your charge card statement.
- c) Taxes and Other Charges. Verizon also may charge you for any applicable taxes, fees, surcharges, account set-up fees or other charges made using the Service, unless you can show with documentation satisfactory to us that you are exempt from these charges. We will not provide advance notice of changes to taxes, surcharges and fees, except as required by applicable law.
- d) Payment. Provisions relating to payment, including without limitation late payment charges, means of payment, credit issues, and deposit requirements; and provisions relating to suspension or termination of service for non-payment or other reasons, and to restoration following such suspension or termination, will be as set forth in the Tariff.

#### 5) **NOTICES**

Verizon's notices to you under this Agreement will be provided by one or more of the following: posting on our web site, recorded announcement, bill message, bill insert, E-mail to an address provided by you, voicemail, letter using United States mail or call to your billed telephone number and such notices are deemed given upon delivery.

# 6) **PRIVACY POLICY**

a) The Service may use, in whole or in part, a managed data network, the public internet and third-party networks to transmit voice and other communications. Verizon will take reasonable measures with respect to the secure transmission of the Service. Verizon will treat your personal information in accordance with its Privacy Policy available at <a href="https://www.verizon.com/privacy">www.verizon.com/privacy</a> and the terms of this Agreement. The Verizon Privacy Policy is incorporated into this Agreement by reference. You agree to the terms of the Privacy Policy, which describes Verizon's use and disclosure of information about your account and your use of the Service. In the event of a conflict between Verizon's Privacy Policy and the other terms of this Agreement, this Agreement shall control.

b) In the course of providing Services to you, we may collect certain information that is made available to us solely by virtue of our relationship with you, such as information about the quantity, technical configuration, type, destination and amount of your use of the telecommunications services you purchase. This information and related billing information is known as Customer Proprietary Network Information, or CPNI. (CPNI does not include your name, address, and phone number.) We may use this information, without further authorization by you, to offer you: (i) services of the type you already purchase from us, and (ii) the full range of products and services available from Verizon and other Verizon companies that may be different from the type of services you currently buy from us. Use of your information will permit us to offer you a package of services tailored to your specific needs. Without further authorization by you, we may also share your information with other Verizon companies with whom you already have an existing service relationship.

# 7) LIMITATIONS ON 911 EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES

- a) In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct by Verizon, our liability to you, to anyone dialing 911 using the Service, or to any other person or party, for any loss or damage arising from any acts, errors, interruptions, omissions, delays, defects, or failures of 911 services or emergency personnel, whether caused by our negligence or otherwise, shall not exceed the amount of our charges for such Services during the affected period of time. This limitation of liability is in addition to any other limitations contained in this Agreement.
- b) Service Outage Due to Suspension of Your Account. You agree that a Service outage due to suspension of your account as a result of billing issues will prevent ALL Service, including any 911 dialing and associated emergency response services.
- c) Potential Limitations. You agree that any 911 calls made using the Service may be subject to network congestion and/or reduced routing or processing speed. If you have Call Forwarding, or other features programmed and in use at the time you dial a 911 call and your call is interrupted, the emergency dispatcher may not be able to call you back at the phone from which you dialed the call.
- d) Additional Service Limitations that Apply in the Event that Verizon Cannot Route Your 911 Call Directly to the Appropriate Emergency Service Provider. If, for any reason, Verizon cannot directly route your 911 call to the appropriate emergency service provider, your 911 call may be routed to a Verizon operator. You agree that the operator and/or emergency response center personnel receiving your call may not be able to identify your phone number or the physical address from which you are calling. You will need to state the nature of your emergency promptly and clearly, including your telephone number and location. You agree that the individual answering the call may not be able to call you back or determine your location if the call is unable to be completed, is dropped or disconnected, or if you

are unable to provide your phone number and physical location and/or if the Service is not operational for any reason. After you identify your location, the Verizon operator will determine the appropriate emergency response center for your location and route you to the general telephone number for that center.

e) If the Device is moved or relocated from your Service location it may not function properly. Any movement of the Device from your Service location will impair your ability to receive emergency services when dialing 911, including the transmission of an incorrect address to emergency personnel.

### 8) SOFTWARE LICENSES AND THIRD-PARTY SERVICES

- a) We may provide you, for a fee or at no charge, software for use in connection with the Service which is owned by us or our third-party licensors, providers and suppliers ("Software"). We reserve the right periodically to update, upgrade or change the Software remotely or otherwise and to make related changes to the settings and Software on your computer or the Equipment, and you agree to permit such changes and access to your computer and the Equipment. You may use the Software only in connection with the Service and for no other purpose.
- b) Certain Software may be accompanied by an end-user license agreement ("EULA") from us or a third party. Your use of the Software is governed by the terms of that EULA and by this Agreement, where applicable. You may not install or use any Software that is accompanied by or includes a EULA unless you first agree to the terms of the EULA.
- c) For Software not accompanied by a EULA, you are hereby granted a revocable, nonexclusive, nontransferable license by us or our third-party licensor(s) to use the Software (and any corrections, updates and upgrades thereto). You may not make any copies of the Software. You agree that the Software is confidential information of Verizon or its third-party licensors and that you will not disclose or use the Software except as expressly permitted herein. The Software contains copyrighted material. trade secrets, patents, and proprietary information owned by us or our third-party licensors. You may not de-compile, reverse engineer, disassemble, attempt to discover any source code or underlying ideas or algorithms of the Software, otherwise reduce the Software to a human readable form, modify, rent, lease, loan, use for timesharing or service bureau purposes, reproduce, sublicense or distribute copies of the Software, or otherwise transfer the Software to any third party. You may not remove or alter any trademark, trade name, copyright or other proprietary notices, legends, symbols or labels appearing on or in copies of the Software. You are not granted any title or rights of ownership in the Software. You acknowledge that this license is not a sale of intellectual property and that we or our third-party licensors continue to own all right, title and interest, including but not limited to all copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret and moral rights, to the Software and related documentation, as well as any corrections, updates and upgrades to it. The Software may be used in the United States only, and any export of the Software is strictly prohibited.
- d) Your license to use the Software will remain in effect until terminated by Verizon or its third-party licensors, or until your Service is terminated. Upon termination of your Service, you must cease all use of the Software.

#### 9) DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

- a) THE SERVICE IS PROVIDED ON AN "AS IS" OR "AS AVAILABLE" BASIS, WITH ALL FAULTS. VERIZON (AND ITS OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, PARENT, SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES), ITS THIRD-PARTY LICENSORS, PROVIDERS AND SUPPLIERS, MAKE NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, CONCERNING YOUR SERVICE. VERIZON DOES NOT WARRANT THAT THE SERVICE WILL BE WITHOUT FAILURE, DELAY, INTERRUPTION, ERROR, DEGRADATION OF VOICE QUALITY OR LOSS OF CONTENT, DATA OR INFORMATION.
- b) IN NO EVENT SHALL VERIZON (OR ITS OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, PARENT, SUBSIDIARIES OR AFFILIATES), ITS THIRD-PARTY LICENSORS, PROVIDERS SUPPLIERS BE LIABLE FOR: (1) ANY INDIRECT, OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING CONSEQUENTIAL WITHOUT LIMITATION, LOST PROFITS, LOSS OF REVENUE OR OTHER COMMERCIAL OR ECONOMIC LOSS ARISING OUT OF THE USE, PARTIAL USE OR INABILITY TO USE THE SERVICE, REGARDLESS OF THE TYPE OF CLAIM OR THE NATURE OF THE CAUSE OF ACTION, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, THOSE ARISING UNDER CONTRACT, TORT, NEGLIGENCE OR STRICT LIABILITY, EVEN IF VERIZON HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH CLAIM OR DAMAGES; OR (2) ANY CLAIMS AGAINST YOU BY ANY OTHER PARTY.
- c) VERIZON SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY DELAY OR FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE SERVICE, AT ANY TIME OR FROM TIME TO TIME, OR FOR ANY INTERRUPTION OR DEGRADATION OF VOICE QUALITY THAT IS CAUSED BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) ACT OR OMISSION OF AN UNDERLYING CARRIER, SERVICE PROVIDER, VENDOR OR OTHER THIRD-PARTY; (2) EQUIPMENT, NETWORK OR FACILITY FAILURE, UPGRADE, SHORTAGE, RELOCATION OR MODIFICATION; (3) EQUIPMENT, NETWORK OR FACILITY FAILURE CAUSED BY THE LOSS OF POWER TO YOU; OR (4) ANY OTHER CAUSE THAT IS BEYOND VERIZON'S CONTROL.
- d) VERIZON'S LIABILITY FOR ANY FAILURE OR MISTAKE SHALL IN NO EVENT EXCEED SERVICE CHARGES WITH RESPECT TO THE AFFECTED TIME PERIOD.
- e) THE REMEDIES EXPRESSLY SET FORTH IN THIS AGREEMENT ARE YOUR SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES. YOU MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL RIGHTS UNDER CERTAIN LAWS (SUCH AS CONSUMER LAWS) WHICH DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES, OR THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF CERTAIN DAMAGES. IF THESE LAWS APPLY, OUR EXCLUSIONS OR LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. UPON DETERMINATION THAT ANY SUCH EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY, VERIZON MAY, IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION, MODIFY THIS AGREEMENT TO EFFECT THE ORIGINAL INTENT AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE.
- f) VERIZON RESERVES THE RIGHT TO PURSUE ANY AND ALL LEGAL AND EQUITABLE CLAIMS AGAINST YOU PERTAINING TO YOUR USE OR MISUSE

OF THE SERVICE OR FOR YOUR BREACH OF THE AGREEMENT (INCLUDING ANY POLICIES RELATING TO THE SERVICE).

# 10) INDEMNIFICATION

You agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Verizon from and against all claims, losses, damages, fines, liabilities, penalties, costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, related to or arising from: (a) any violation of applicable laws, regulations or this Agreement by you (or any parties who use your account, with or without your permission, to access the Service); (b) negligent acts, errors or omissions by you (or any parties who use your account, with or without your permission, to access the Service); (c) injuries to or death of any person, and for damages to or loss of any property, which may in any way arise out of or result from or in connection with this Agreement, except to the extent that such liabilities arise from the gross negligence or willful misconduct of Verizon; or (d) claims for infringement of any intellectual property rights arising from the use of the Service, Software, or the Internet.

#### 11) **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- a) All obligations of the parties under this Agreement, which by their nature would continue beyond the termination, cancellation or expiration of this Agreement, shall survive such termination, cancellation or expiration.
- b) Verizon will not be liable for delays, damages or failures in performance due to causes beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of a governmental body, acts of God, acts of third parties, fires, floods, strikes or other labor-related disputes, of other things we do not control, or an inability to obtain necessary equipment or services.
- c) We may assign all or any part of this Agreement without notice and you agree to make all subsequent payments as directed. This Agreement is not for the benefit of any third party except Verizon's parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, agents and predecessors and successors in interest.
- d) If any of the terms or conditions in this Agreement are held to be invalid or unenforceable by a government body of competent jurisdiction, the holding shall not affect any other term or condition of this Agreement, and the Agreement shall be construed as if it did not contain the invalid or unenforceable term or condition.
- e) Except as otherwise required by law, you and Verizon agree that the substantive laws of the state of your billing address, without reference to its principles of conflicts of laws, will be applied to govern and construe all of the rights and duties of the parties under this Agreement, except as otherwise required by law or to the extent such state law is pre-empted by applicable federal law, including the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.
- f) We reserve the right to modify the Service to reflect any change in any governing law, underlying network service or component affecting the Service.
- g) Verizon's failure at any time to insist upon strict compliance with any of the provisions of this Agreement in any instance shall not be construed to be a waiver of such terms in the future.

- h) This Agreement, including all attachments and all other policies which are fully incorporated into this Agreement either by attachment or by reference, constitutes the entire Agreement between you and Verizon with respect to the subject matter hereto and supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements whether written or oral. Any changes by you to this Agreement, or any additional or different terms in your purchase orders, acknowledgements or other documents, written or electronic, are void.
- Our goal is to satisfy our customers and we welcome opportunities to improve our service. If you have a problem or complaint, call your service representative. Verizon service representatives are trained to properly investigate and resolve problems fairly. If you are not satisfied after that, ask to speak to a supervisor or manager. If the problem still exists, call out President's Office at 1.800.483.7899, 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday. Or you may write to the President's Office at: Verizon, 23rd floor, 140 West Street, NY, NY 10007. If you are not satisfied after calling the President's Office, you may call the New York State Public Service Commission, Office of Consumer Services at 1.800.342.3377, 8:30am to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday. You may also write to them at Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223.

### 13) **VOLUNTARY MEDIATION**

Verizon offers customers the option of participating in a free internal mediation program. This program is entirely voluntary. In our voluntary mediation program, we will assign an employee who is not directly involved in the dispute to help both sides reach an agreement. That person has all the rights and protections of a mediator and the process has all of the protections associated with mediation. For example, nothing said in the mediation can be used later in an arbitration or lawsuit. If you would like to know more, or you would like to start the mediation process, please contact us at <a href="MoticeofDispute@verizon.com">NoticeofDispute@verizon.com</a> or through Verizon Dispute Resolution Manager, One Verizon Way, VC52N061, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, for a Notice of Customer Dispute Form. Fill out and send the Notice of Customer Dispute Form to us according to the directions on the form. In addition to this and any other dispute-resolution mechanisms that may be available under applicable law, you can also bring any issues you may have to the attention of federal, state, or local government agencies, and if the law allows, they can seek relief against us for you.

# [[DATE]]

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