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## CONSUMER AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS BUREAU ANNOUNCES COMPLIANCE AND COMMENT DATES FOR THE INTEROPERABLE VIDEO CONFERENCING SERVICES PROCEEDING

CG Docket Nos. 03-123, 10-213, 23-161

Comments Due: September 6, 2023 Reply Comments Due: October 6, 2023

On June 12, 2023, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) issued a *Report and Order, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Order* regarding the definition of "interoperable video conferencing service," determining that the Commission's existing advanced communications service rules apply to commonly used video conferencing platforms, and seeking comment on whether to adopt specific performance objectives and how to integrate telecommunications relay services with interoperable video conferencing services, among other things.<sup>1</sup>

The *Report and Order* set a compliance deadline of one year and 30 days after publication of a summary of the *Report and Order* in the Federal Register.<sup>2</sup> On August 1, 2023, a summary was published in the Federal Register.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, providers of interoperable video conferencing services must comply with the accessibility rules no later than September 3, 2024.<sup>4</sup>

Comments and reply comments on the *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (NPRM) are due 30 days and 60 days, respectively, after publication in the Federal Register.<sup>5</sup> On August 7, 2023, a summary of the NPRM was published in the Federal Register.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Access to Video Conferencing, Implementation of Sections 716 and 717 of the Communications Act of 1934, as Enacted by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, Petition of Sorenson Communications, LLC for a Limited Waiver of the Privacy Screen Rule, CG Docket Nos. 23-161, 10-213, 03-123, Report and Order, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Order, FCC 23-50 (June 8, 2023), <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-requires-video-conferencing-accessibility-proposes-asl-support-0">https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-requires-video-conferencing-accessibility-proposes-asl-support-0</a> (Report and Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Report and Order at 44, para. 131.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Federal Communications Commission, Access to Video Conferencing, 88 Fed. Reg. 50053 (August 1, 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> One year and 30 days from August 1, 2023, is technically August 31, 2024. However, August 31, 2024, is a Saturday. The first business day after the one year and 30 day period is September 3, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Report and Order at 45, para. 134.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Federal Communications Commission, Access to Video Conferencing, 88 Fed. Reg. 52088 (August 7, 2023).

For further information regarding advanced communications services, contact Ike Ofobike, Disability Rights Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, 202-418-1028, or <a href="Ike.Ofobike@fcc.gov">Ike.Ofobike@fcc.gov</a>. For further information regarding TRS, contact Bill Wallace, Disability Rights Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, 202-418-2716, or <a href="William.Wallace@fcc.gov">William.Wallace@fcc.gov</a>. Individuals who use videophones and are fluent in American Sign Language (ASL) may call the FCC's ASL Consumer Line at (844) 432-2275.

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