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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Consumer Alert: Warning to VoIP Consumers  
Update on Shutoff Deadlines**

This press release is an update on the warning that was issued on August 24, 2005 that many customers of Internet-based telephone service (known as Voice over Internet Protocol, or VoIP) must respond by August 29, 2005 to notices being sent out by their providers or face disconnection from their service the following day. The FCC ruled that consumers have until **September 22, 2005** to send their acknowledgments to their VoIP provider.

The notices are intended to alert consumers so they will not mistakenly think that their VoIP service can or will handle 9-1-1 calls in the same manner as traditional telephone systems. Companies have been sending the required notices by various means, including electronically and standard mail. If customers of Internet-based telephone service have not yet received a notice or need another copy, they should immediately contact their provider. Consumers should also be aware that they can, in some instances, provide their acknowledgment electronically. Please realize that the day filed electronically may not be the same day received by their provider.

If consumers do not send their acknowledgment to their provider in the time specified, their VoIP service will be shut off. This is especially critical for those consumers who have VoIP as their only home communications.

The FCC has ordered VoIP providers to provide E 9-1-1 by later this year; the notice requirement is an interim step.