## CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Confidential Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement") is made and effective as of the <u>Movember</u>, 2006 (the "Effective Date"), between Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") and Pacific Bell Wireless Northwest LLC, more commonly known as Cingular Wireless and its affiliates ("Cingular") (Qwest and Cingular may be hereafter individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively referred to as the "Parties").

## **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, Qwest and Cingular are parties to a "Local Interconnection Agreement" in Washington, as amended (the "Interconnection Agreement" or "ICA"), and

WHEREAS, Qwest has provided Cingular with SS7 services which Qwest contends were purchased under state or federal tariff and which Cingular contends should have been provided at no charge under the ICA; and

WHEREAS, Cingular has disputed those charges associated with those SS7 services as having been improperly assessed (the Disputed Charges"); and

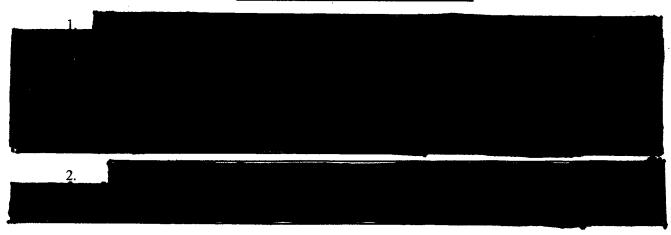
WHEREAS, Cingular has initiated a complaint at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") under Docket No. UT-063048, asking the Commission to order Qwest to refund the Disputed Charges; and

WHEREAS, Qwest has answered the complaint, denying liability for a refund and asserting affirmative defenses; and

WHEREAS, Cingular and Qwest have agreed to settle the outstanding issues between them regarding the Disputed Charges, including payment of certain amounts by Qwest to Cingular in recognition of a billing error made by Qwest, and dismissal of Cingular's pending complaint before the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual agreements, undertakings, and representations contained herein, the payment of the amounts set forth below, and other good and valuable consideration, which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

## AGREEMENTS AND COVENANTS



- 3. In consideration of the payments, covenants, agreements and commitments contained herein and the Parties' performance of this Agreement, each Party releases, acquits, holds harmless and forever discharges the other Party, its officers, directors, employees, agents, attorneys, successors, assigns, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, shareholders, partners, insurance companies and bonding companies and each of their directors, officers, agents, attorneys, employees and representatives (collectively the "Released Parties") from any and all claims, demands, damages, disputes, actions, causes of action, suits, debts, duties, losses, and obligations of any kind or nature whatsoever, known or unknown, related to or arising out of the Disputed Charges which it has, had or may have that accrued from the beginning of time through the date of the execution of this Agreement against each respective Released Parties, or any of them. This Agreement shall constitute a full satisfaction, discharge and release of all claims related to the Disputed Traffic.
- 4. This Agreement shall be confidential, and each Party shall maintain the confidentiality of this Agreement. If either Party is compelled to disclose the existence or terms of this Agreement in judicial or administrative proceedings, such Party will notify the other Party in writing, at least thirty (30) days in advance of such disclosure, to provide the other Party an opportunity to seek protective arrangements. Each Party will cooperate with the other Party in that regard. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties agree that this Agreement will be filed with the Commission concurrently with the motion to dismiss. The Agreement will be designated as confidential to the extent permitted by Commission rules.
  - 5. Qwest and Cingular each represents and warrants, that:
    - A. It has full authority and the present ability to perform all of its obligations under this Agreement;
    - B. It has obtained all governmental consents, approvals and authorizations required or necessary in order for it to perform all of its obligations under this Agreement;
    - C. It has all requisite corporate and other legal power and authority to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement;
    - D. It will comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and orders of all governmental agencies, bodies and other organizations in performing its obligations under this Agreement;
    - E. No consents, approvals, authorizations or notices from any third parties are required in connection with or for: (i) the performance of its obligations under this Agreement; (ii) the validity and enforceability of this Agreement; or (iii) its execution, delivery and performance of its obligations under this Agreement; and
    - F. It has not assigned, sold or transferred its right, power or authority to execute and grant the releases and enter into the covenants and agreements contained herein.
- 6. If either Party fails to enforce any right or remedy available under this Agreement, that failure will not be construed as a waiver of any right or remedy with respect to any other prior or subsequent default, misrepresentation or breach of any term or condition of this Agreement or in any

manner affect any rights arising by reason of any such prior or subsequent default, misrepresentation or breach.

- 7. This Agreement constitutes the full, entire and complete understanding and agreement between Qwest and Cingular and supersedes any prior understandings, agreements or representations, if any, whether written, oral or otherwise, that relate in any manner whatsoever to the subjects of this Agreement.
- 8. Qwest reserves the right to modify its tariffs; provided, however, and subject to applicable law, that Qwest shall not modify its tariffs for the purpose of invalidating any portion of this Agreement. In all other respects, no term or condition of this Agreement, including without limitation the terms and conditions of this paragraph, may be amended, modified or supplemented, and no waivers or consents to departures from any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be effective or of any force or effect other than as shall be set forth in and pursuant to a written instrument signed by both Qwest and Cingular. In addition, any conflicts between the terms if this Agreement and the Interconnection Agreement shall be controlled by the terms of the Interconnection Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to modify or amend any terms of the Interconnection Agreement.
- 9. To the extent not governed by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (47 USC Section 201 et seq.), this Agreement shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of Washington.
- 10. This Agreement has been jointly drafted by Qwest and Cingular and shall not be interpreted in favor of or against either Party. Qwest and Cingular have each sought and obtained advice of counsel in negotiating and entering into this Agreement.
- 11. Any dispute arising out of, or relating to, this Agreement shall be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution provisions of the Parties' Interconnection Agreement.
- 12. Any notice to Qwest or Cingular required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be personally served, delivered by Certified US Mail, or by a courier service. Upon prior agreement of Qwest's and Cingular's designated recipients listed below, such notice may also be provided by facsimile. Any notice shall be delivered using one of the aforementioned means and shall be directed as indicated below:

If to Qwest:

**Qwest Corporation** 

Attention: Legal Department 1801 California Street, Suite 900

Denver, Colorado 80202

If to Cingular:

Cingular Wireless Legal Department

Attn: Sr. Counsel Network

PO Box 97061

Redmond, WA 98073-9761

For delivery: 8645 154<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Redmond, WA 98052 With a copy to:

Cingular Wireless
Supply Chain
Attn: Suzy Nieman
PO Box 97061
Redmond, WA 98073-9761
For delivery:
8645 154<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052

- 13. Qwest and Cingular acknowledge and agree that this Agreement does not constitute an admission by either of them of the truth, accuracy or merit of any fact, asserted principle of law, any matter, claim or cause of action alleged or asserted in any judicial, regulatory or other forum, whether past, present or future, relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement does not constitute an admission with respect to the appropriateness or legality of any charges, billed or unbilled, whether paid or unpaid, nor does it constitute an ongoing term or condition of any interconnection agreement, and each Party reserves any and all rights to take any action with respect to any other billing disputes it may have. Nothing contained herein shall be construed or interpreted to preclude representatives of Qwest or Cingular from responding to legal process in connection with the subject matter of this Agreement; provided, that any such responding Party shall provide prompt notice of any such response to the other Party.
- 14. This Agreement may be executed by facsimile and in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which shall be deemed one and the same document.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, Qwest and Cingular have caused this Agreement to be duly executed and delivered as of the date first set forth above.

**Qwest Corporation** 

Cingular

Name: Sioun Amiland

Name: Title:

Sinior manager

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