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**D.C. Circuit Court Issues Decision in Verizon Forbearance Case**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – On Friday, the D.C. Circuit released its decision on Verizon's appeal of the FCC's Order denying its petitions for forbearance from its Section 251(c) unbundling obligations and dominant carrier regulation in six major metropolitan areas. The Court remanded the decision to the FCC for further consideration on the limited ground that the Commission failed to adequately explain its use of an actual market share test in evaluating whether the markets were competitive enough to warrant forbearance.

Commenting on the decision, COMPTEL said: "We are delighted that the Court rejected Verizon's attempt to conflate the Section 251(c) impairment standard and the Section 10 forbearance standard. We look forward to the Commission's decision on remand."

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*About COMPTEL*

*Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive communications service providers and their supplier partners. COMPTEL members are entrepreneurial companies driving technological innovation and creating economic growth through competitive voice, video, and data offerings and the development and deployment of next-generation, IP-based networks and services. COMPTEL advances its members' interests through trade shows, networking, education, and policy advocacy before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and the courts. COMPTEL works to ensure that competitive communications providers can continue to offer lower prices, better service, and greater innovation to consumers. For more information, visit [www.comptel.org](http://www.comptel.org).*