FCC HOSPITAL ROBOCALL PROTECTION GROUP
Charter

1. The Committee’s Official Designation

The official designation of this federal advisory committee is the “Hospital Robocall Protection Group” (HRPG).

2. Authority

The HRPG is hereby established at the direction of the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 and the Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (Public Law No. 116-105, the TRACED Act).

3. Objective and Scope of Activities

The HRPG will be established to carry out the duties required by the TRACED Act, as more specifically described in section 4 of this charter. The HRPG will conduct no business except as required by that Act.

4. Description of Duties

As required by section 14(c) of the TRACED Act, the HRPG shall issue best practices regarding the following:

(1) How voice service providers can better combat unlawful robocalls made to hospitals.

(2) How hospitals can better protect themselves from such calls, including by using unlawful robocall mitigation techniques.

(3) How the Federal Government and State governments can help combat such calls.

It is anticipated that these best practices shall be issued not later than 180 days after establishment of the HRPG, as required by the TRACED Act. Best practices issued shall be reported to the Chairman of the Commission. Issuing these best practices constitutes the entirety of the HRPG’s duties.

5. Official to Whom the HRPG Reports

Chairman, Federal Communications Commission.

6. Support
The Commission will provide the facilities and support staff necessary to conduct meetings of the HRPG. HRPG members will not be compensated for travel expenses or receive per diem reimbursement for their services. To ensure meeting accessibility for persons with disabilities, including members of the public in addition to committee members, the Commission will, however, pay costs associated with the provision of reasonable accommodations when such costs are directly associated with the conduct of the HRPG’s meetings, or are directly associated with the conduct of subcommittee meetings. Some examples of reasonable accommodations include sign language interpreters, meeting agendas produced in Braille, and communication access real-time translation services (CART).

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Staff Years

Annual operating costs associated with supporting the HRPG’s functions are estimated to be $225,000, which includes Commission staff time equivalent to 2.25 FTE’s.

8. Designated Federal Officer and Deputy Federal Designated Officer

Full-time or permanent part-time employees, appointed by the Chairman of the Commission, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) and Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO). The DFO or DDFO will approve or call all HRPG meetings, as well as any meetings of informal subcommittees, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee or subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO or DDFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Chairman.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of HRPG Meetings

The HRPG shall meet at least twice to effectuate its duties, as described in section 4 above. The HRPG is also authorized to facilitate its work through informal subcommittees, as provided in section 13.

10. Duration

The HRPG will be conduct its business for approximately 180 days, or until such time as it has completed its statutory duties.

11. Termination

The HRPG shall terminate upon issuance of best practices under Section 3 of this Charter, which is anticipated to be no later than 180 days after the HRPG is established, but in no case more than two years from its establishment.

12. Membership
Members of the HRPG shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission in consultation with appropriate Commission staff. Members will be appointed either as Representatives or as regular government employees, consistent with the requirements of the TRACED Act. It is anticipated that there will be at least six (6) representative members, and two government employees (one employee representing the Commission and a second representing the Federal Trade Commission).

As required by section 14(b) of the TRACED Act, the Group shall be composed only of the following members:

(1) An equal number of representatives from each of the following:

   (A) Voice service providers that serve hospitals.

   (B) Companies that focus on mitigating unlawful robocalls.

   (C) Consumer advocacy organizations.

   (D) Providers of one-way voice over internet protocol services described in section 14(e)(3)(B)(ii) of the TRACED Act.

   (E) Hospitals.

   (F) State government officials focused on combating unlawful robocalls.

(2) One representative of the Commission.

(3) One representative of the Federal Trade Commission.

13. Subcommittees

The Commission may create informal subcommittees of the HRPG to facilitate its work. It is anticipated that the work of any subcommittees will be conducted primarily through telephone calls, e-mail correspondence, and e-mail discussion lists. Recommendations of any subcommittee must be reported to the HRPG as a whole and may not be treated as recommendations of the HRPG unless, and until, ratified by the full HRPG (either as proposed or with modifications). Subcommittee members will have an initial and continuing obligation to disclose any interests in, or connections to, persons or entities who are, or will be, regulated by the Commission, or who have interests before the Commission.

14. Recordkeeping

Records of the proceedings will be kept, as required by applicable laws and regulations. All records of the HRPG, its subcommittees, and any other subgroups of the HRPG, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2, or other approved agency
records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

15. Filing Date