### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Complaint of Timothy S. and Teri L. Turnbull,					
Complainants,					
v.					
Verizon North Inc.,					
Respondent.					

Case No. 09-571-TP-CSS

### ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES OF VERIZON NORTH INC.

Verizon North Inc. ("Verizon"), through its counsel, answers the July 3, 2009 Complaint ("Complaint") of Timothy S. and Teri L. Turnbull ("Complainants") and raises its affirmative defenses thereto as follows:

### A. <u>ANSWER</u>

### Page 1 of the Complaint

1. Verizon lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted regarding Complainants' discussions with PUCO personnel and therefore denies them.

2. Verizon admits that Complainants' residence is served by some facilities that are not presently permanently buried or aerial. Answering further, Verizon states that it is in the process of installing poles and aerial facilities to serve Complainants.

### Page 2 of the Complaint

3. Verizon admits that Complainants have placed more than one service call regarding their telephone service.

4. Verizon denies that there are consistently broken wires, static and no dial tone on Complainants' line.

5. Verizon admits that Verizon has sent a repair technician to Complainants' residence in response to service calls, but denies that its repair technician stated that Verizon has chosen to ignore Complainants' concerns.

6. Verizon admits that it maintains records of Verizon's repairs to Complainants' line.

7. Verizon lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted regarding Complainants' discussions with PUCO personnel and therefore denies them.

8. Verizon lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in the final sentence of the second page of the Complaint regarding Complainants' actions and therefore denies them.

### Page 3 of the Complaint

9. Verizon admits that the first sentence of the third page of the Complaint states Complainants' requested relief, but denies that any facility can be 100% immune from occasional disruptions.

10. Verizon denies that Complainants are entitled to punitive damages, denies that Complainants can seek any form of recovery on behalf of their neighbors, and further

denies that the PUCO has jurisdiction to award punitive damages or damages to Complainants on behalf of their neighbors.

11. Verizon denies that Complainants are entitled to damages for "duress," and further denies that the PUCO has jurisdiction to award damages for emotional distress.

12. Verizon denies that it is in breach of any responsibilities to Complainants, and denies that it has violated any Ohio statutes or rules of the Commission.

13. Verizon admits that Complainants have paid their bills, but answering further, states that Verizon has provided bill credits to Complainants in compliance with the requirements of O.A.C § 4905:1-5.

14. The allegations of the sixth and seventh sentences of the third page of the Complaint require no response from Verizon.

15. Verizon lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the origin or authenticity of the photos attached to the Complaint and therefore denies their relevance in this proceeding.

### B. <u>AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES</u>

1. <u>No Violation of R.C. § 4905.26</u>. The Complaint fails to state grounds for a complaint against Verizon pursuant to R.C. § 4905.26 because Complainant has not alleged any violation of any rules, regulations or laws that would constitute a violation of R.C. § 4905.26. Because Complainant has not shown that Verizon has taken any unlawful actions under R.C. § 4905.26, the Complaint should be dismissed.

2. Lack of Commission Jurisdiction. The Commission has no jurisdiction over Complainants' claims for punitive damages and/or damages for "duress" or emotional distress, which arise in tort. Because the Commission has no authority to award the relief sought, the Commission lacks jurisdiction over the Complaint and the relief requested therein. The Complaint should therefore be dismissed.

3. <u>Complainants' Violation of Tariffs</u>. Phone calls to the number listed in the Complaint are answered in the name of "A-1 Reptiles & A-1 Daylilies," which is also the complaining company name listed in informal complaint No. TTUR103007S7. A-1 Reptiles operates a commercial website that lists Complainants' phone number as its "Order Line." *See <u>http://www.alreptiles.net/</u>; see also Exhibit 1 hereto, which is a true and correct printout of the A-1 Reptiles home page. A-1 Daylilies operates a commercial website that lists Complainants' address as A-1 Daylilies' mailing address. <i>See* 

http://www.aldaylilies.com/; see also Exhibit 2 hereto, which is a true and correct printout of the A-1 Daylilies home page. Complainants are in violation of Verizon's tariffs by obtaining business service at residential service rates. In light of Complainants' breach of the provisions and restrictions of Verizon's tariffs, including, but not limited to, General Exchange Tariff P.U.C.O. No. 7, Sec. 3, Sheet No. 2 and Revised Sheet No. 46, the Complaint is barred and must be dismissed because Complainants are obtaining service illegally.

4. <u>Actions of Unknown Third Parties</u>. On information and belief, Complainants' line has been damaged by the actions of unknown third parties for whom

Verizon is not liable. Verizon has repaired Complainants' line after such incidents, restoring service to Complainants, and the Complaint must therefore be dismissed.

5. <u>Satisfaction Pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-9-01</u>. Complainants' service is restored and operational, and the Complaint has thus been satisfied by work performed by Verizon. In addition, as noted in Paragraph 2 of Verizon's Answer, Verizon is in the process of installing poles and aerial facilities to serve Complainants. Complainants are not entitled to any further relief. Pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-9-01(F), Complainants have twenty (20) days to file a written response agreeing or disagreeing with the satisfaction of the Complaint. If no response is filed, the Commission may presume that the Complaint has been satisfied and dismiss it.

WHEREFORE, Verizon North Inc. requests that the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice.

Dated: July 27, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

### **VERIZON NORTH INC.**

By: <u>/s/ Carolyn S. Flahive</u> Thomas E. Lodge Carolyn S. Flahive THOMPSON HINE LLP 41 South High Street, Suite 1700 Columbus, Ohio 43215-6101 (614) 469-3200 (614) 469-3361 FAX <u>Tom.Lodge@thompsonhine.com</u> Carolyn.Flahive@thompsonhine.com

Of Counsel:

A. Randall Vogelzang General Counsel Verizon Great Lakes Region 600 Hidden Ridge, HQE02J27 Irving, TX 75038 (972) 718-2170 (972) 718-0936 FAX randy.vogelzang@verizon.com

Deborah Kuhn Assistant General Counsel Verizon Great Lakes Region 205 North Michigan Avenue Suite 1100 Chicago, Illinois 60601 (312) 260-3326 (312) 470-5571 FAX deborah.kuhn@verizon.com

Its Attorneys

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have forwarded a copy of the foregoing Answer and Affirmative Defenses of Verizon North Inc. upon:

Timothy S. and Teri L. Turnbull 4413 Greenbriar Road Bainbridge, OH 45612

by U.S. mail this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009.

<u>/s/Carolyn S. Flahive</u> Carolyn S. Flahive

Ч EXHIBIT

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**Mack Snow Leopard Gecko** 



White's Tree Frog





**Jackson Chameleon** 



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Directions

Daylily

http://www.a1daylilies.com/

M-N O-P O-R S-T II-V W-X V-Z

A-B SelectionG-H I-J K-L

7/22/2009



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Abba

**All American** 

Chief

Anglican Church

**American Revolution** 

Amadeus



Arabian Magic

**Back Draft** 

Awesome Blossom

Awakening

Arc Of Doves

Dream



Bound Bama

**Barbara Mitchell** 



**Beware The** Wizard



http://www.aldaylilies.com/

7/22/2009

**Beyond Belief** 

**Beyond The Blue** 

**Big Kiss** 

**Big Apple** 

















Beautiful Edgings









































**Becky Lynn** 









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**Book Of Kells** 

**Blue Connection** 

Blessing

**Blackberry Candy** 

**Bill Norris** 

7/22/2009













By Myself

Inheritance

Burning

Bubbly

Broken Heart

**Border Bride** 











**Canadian Border** 

Cameroon's

**Calistoga Sun** 

Patrol







Chicago Fire





Woodbery Catherine









































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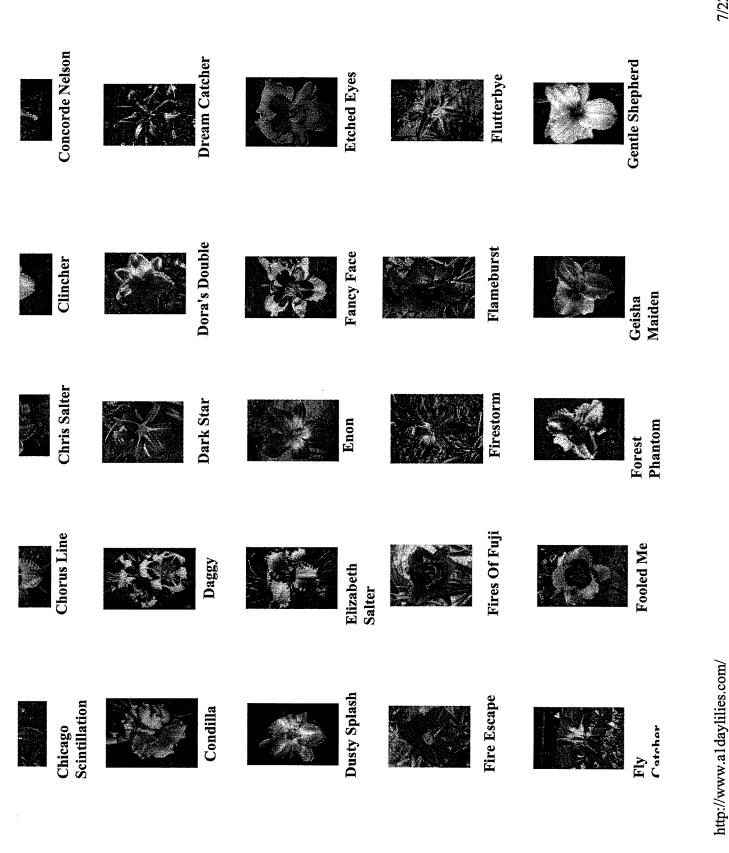
**Chance Encounter** 



Chicago



http://www.aldaylilies.com/



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**Gordon Biggs** 

Hillbilly Heart

Granite City Towhead Green Widow















http://www.aldaylilies.com/



7/22/2009

Lavender Dew











Jan Zoo

Jack Sprat

















Leah Abbott



Lin Wright

Lemon Mint





































John Raines

Indian Sky

Indian Giver

Jackpot Illini

Holly Dancer

7.8















































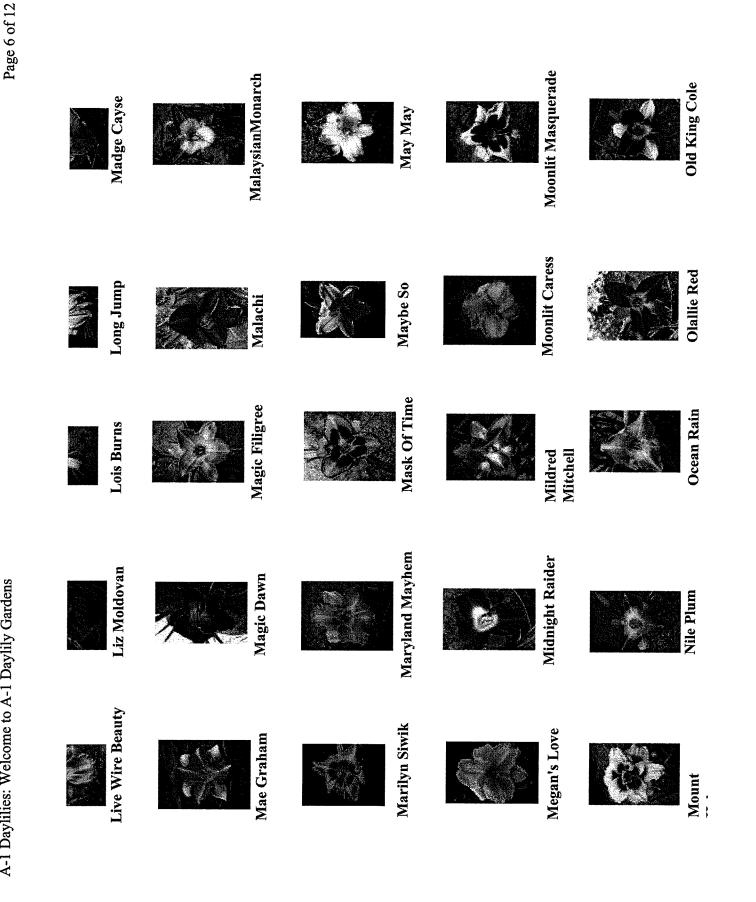












http://www.aldaylilies.com/

Helena

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**Regency Heights** 

**Red Volunteer** 

**Red Showcase** 



Raspberry Sunshine



**Pewter Lake** 

**Peacock Maiden** 

**Patsy Bickers** 

Party Partner

Pardon

Me

Paper Butterfly

Palladian Pink

**Pagan Ritual** 

Outrageous

**Orchid Majesty** 



**Radiation Biohazard** 







































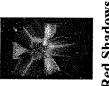












**Red Shadows** 





**Red Coral** 

















**Pirates Patch** 









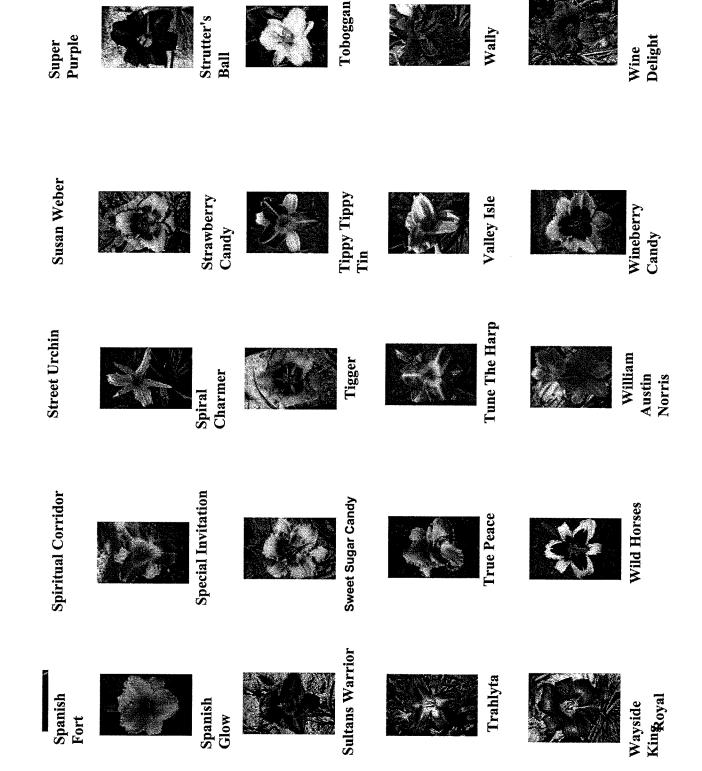




Rue Royal	Scarlet Orbit	Siloam Show Girl	Solid Mahogany	
Royal Frosting	Scaramouche	Siloam Red Ruby	Smuggler's Gold	
Rose Cherub	Sayville	Siloam Double Classic	Smoking Gun	
Rocket City	Russian Easter	Siloam Amæringe	Simple Gifts	
Rein DeViolettes	Ruby Laser	Seventy Six	Siloam Tiny Tim	

http://www.aldaylilies.com/

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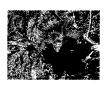
http://www.aldaylilies.com/



Winsome Lady



Witches Brew



Woodside Ruby



Wyoming Wildfire



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Matt

Mary Jane Carpenter

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Ram



**Orange Crush** 



**Forbidden Dreams** 

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past the lake turn right on the first road which is Egypt Hollow Road. Egypt Potts Hill Road and follow the signs to Pike Lake and LB Camgrounds. Just intersection of Egypt Hollow and Greenbriar Road our daylily farm is to the Hollow Road will dead end into Greenbriar Road. Once you've reached the From Columbus, Ohio take State Route 104 South to State Route 50 West. Take State Route 50 West all the way to Bainbridge, Ohio and turn left on right and first driveway on the left at 4413 Greenbriar Road.

Egypt Hollow Road. Egypt Hollow Road will dead end into Greenbriar Road. Ohio and turn right on Potts Hill Road and follow the signs to Pike Lake and Once you've reached the intersection of Egypt Hollow and Greenbriar Road From Cincinnati, Ohio take State Route 50 East all the way to Bainbridge, LB Camgrounds. Just past the lake turn right at the first road which is our daylily farm is to the right and first driveway on the left at 4413 Greenbriar Road.

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Summary: Answer answer and affirmative defenses electronically filed by Carolyn S Flahive on behalf of Verizon North Inc.