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MEDIA CONTACT:

Rose Cummings
704.602.7304
rcummings@fairpoint.com

FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS NAMES CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (March 16, 2010) – FairPoint Communications today named Kathleen McLean, a telecommunications industry veteran with extensive experience in using process excellence and information technology to achieve business objectives, as chief information officer.

With over 27 years of information technology experience and 16 years in telecommunications, McLean is a seasoned professional. She most recently served as senior vice president of customer service in Verizon Partner Solutions, where she led a global team of 9,000 employees responsible for ordering, provisioning and maintaining voice, data and IP-based technologies for business and wholesale customers. She joined Verizon's IT organization in 1998 as vice president of architecture and technology where she led the development of Verizon's early Internet applications and highly automated wholesale processes and systems. During her tenure at Verizon, she held positions of increasing responsibility leading, managing and implementing information technology solutions to improve service and efficiency in partnership with the network, operations and regulatory teams. Before joining Verizon, McLean was a vice president in the telecommunications industry group at American Management Systems, Inc. She began her career as a financial systems analyst with the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Washington.

"Her expertise will be instrumental in helping FairPoint accelerate the systems and process improvements we already have underway. And, as the organization matures, she will establish a strategy for effectively responding to the IT needs of the company," says David L. Hauser, Chairman and CEO of FairPoint.

McLean holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service degree in international economics from Georgetown University in Washington. She will be based in Charlotte, N.C.

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About FairPoint

FairPoint Communications, Inc. is an industry leading provider of communications services to communities across the country. Today, FairPoint owns and operates local exchange companies in 18 states offering advanced communications with a personal touch, including local and long distance voice, data, Internet, television and broadband services. Learn more at www.FairPoint.com.