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December 20, 2012

Mr. Randall L. Stephenson
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
AT&T, Inc.
208 South Akard Street
Dallas, Texas 75202

Mr. John Legere
Chief Executive Officer
T-Mobile USA, Inc.
12920 SE 38th Street
Bellevue, Washington 98006-1350

Mr. Daniel S. Mead
President and Chief Executive Officer
Verizon Wireless
One Verizon Way
Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

Mr. Daniel R. Hesse
President and Chief Executive Officer
Sprint Nextel Corporation
6200 Sprint Parkway
Overland Park, Kansas 66251

Dear Messrs. Stephenson, Mead, Legere, and Hesse:

I am writing to request that your companies waive processing and transaction fees for donations that are made to organizations providing relief to the Newtown community following the tragic shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

The events of December 14 were horrific and appalling, and they have deeply and grievously affected the residents of Newtown community as well as victims and their families. As the community grieves, I have been touched by the generous outpouring of help and spirit from Americans all over the country in offering assistance. Many Americans have already made donations to charitable organizations that are providing assistance to the community, and I hope many more will follow.

Your companies enable an easy method to contribute to relief efforts by allowing them to donate via text message. Although convenient, these text messages can incur a charge. Your companies have waived these fees following previous tragedies, such as Hurricane Sandy, and I urge you to waive these fees in this instance as well.

Your companies provide a convenient service to generous Americans who wish to help a distraught community. I encourage you to allow these charitable contributions to be most effective and do the most good for the Newtown victims, their families, and community by waiving the transaction fees that normally apply to these donations.

Sincerely,



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate