## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS WACO DIVISION

VOIP-PAL.COM, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

AMAZON.COM, INC.; AMAZON TECHNOLOGIES, INC.; AMAZON.COM, SERVICES LLC; and AMAZON WEB SERVICES, INC.;

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 20-cv-272

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

## ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff VoIP-Pal.com, Inc. ("VoIP-Pal"), for its Complaint against Defendants

Amazon.com, Inc., Amazon Technologies, Inc., Amazon.com, Services, Inc., and Amazon Web

Services, Inc. (collectively "Amazon Defendants"), alleges as follows:

### THE PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff VoIP-Pal.com, Inc. ("VoIP-Pal") is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business located at 10900 NE 4th Street, Suite 2300, Bellevue, Washington 98004.
- 2. On information and belief, Amazon.com, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 410 Terry Ave. North, Seattle, Washington 98109. Amazon.com, Inc. may be served through its registered agent Corporation Service Company, 251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808.
- 3. On information and belief, Amazon Technologies, Inc. is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business at 410 Terry Ave. North, Seattle, Washington 98109.



Amazon Technologies, Inc. may be served through its registered agent Corporation Service Company, 112 North Curry Street, Carson City, Nevada, 89703. On information and belief, Amazon Technologies, Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Amazon.com, Inc.

- 4. On information and belief, Amazon.com Services, LLC is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 410 Terry Ave. North, Seattle, Washington 98109.

  Amazon.com Services, LLC may be served through its registered agent Corporation Service Company, 211 E. 7th Street, Suite 620, Austin, Texas 78701. On information and belief, Amazon.com Services, LLC is registered to do business in the State of Texas and has been since at least December 30, 2019. On information and belief, Amazon.com Services, LLC is a whollyowned subsidiary of Amazon.com, Inc.
- 5. On information and belief, Amazon Web Services, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 410 Terry Ave. North, Seattle, Washington 98109.

  Amazon Web Services, Inc. may be served through its registered agent Corporation Service Company, 211 E. 7th Street, Suite 620, Austin, Texas 78701. On information and belief, Amazon Web Services, Inc. is registered to do business in the State of Texas and has been since at least May 3, 2006. On information and belief, Amazon Web Services, LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Amazon.com, Inc.
- 6. On information and belief, the Amazon Defendants regularly conduct and transact business in the State of Texas, throughout the United States, and within this District, and as set forth below, have committed and continue to commit, tortious acts of infringement within and outside the State of Texas and within this District.



### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 7. This action is a civil action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35, United States Code ("U.S.C.") §1 et seq., including 35 U.S.C. §§ 271 and 281-285. This Court has exclusive subject matter jurisdiction over this case for patent infringement under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338.
- 8. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Amazon Defendants by virtue of their systematic and continuous contacts with this jurisdiction, as alleged herein, as well as because the injury to VoIP-Pal occurred in the State of Texas and the claim for relief possessed by VoIP-Pal against the Amazon Defendants for that injury arose in the State of Texas. On information and belief, the Amazon Defendants have purposely availed themselves of the privileges of conducting business within the State of Texas, such business including but not limited to: (i) at least a portion of the infringements alleged herein; (ii) purposefully and voluntarily placing one or more infringing products into the stream of commerce with the expectation that they will be purchased by consumers in this forum; or (iii) regularly transacting or soliciting business, engaging in other persistent courses of conduct, or deriving or attempting to derive substantial revenue and financial benefits from goods and services provided to individuals residing in the State of Texas and in this District. Thus, the Amazon Defendants are subject to this Court's specific and general personal jurisdiction under due process and the Texas Long Arm Statute.
- 9. Personal jurisdiction also exists specifically over the Amazon Defendants because the Amazon Defendants, directly or through subsidiaries or intermediaries (including customers, distributors, retailers, and others), subsidiaries, alter egos, and/or agents ships, distributes, offers for sale, sells, imports, advertises, or markets in the State of Texas and in this District, one



or more products that infringe the patent-in-suit, as described particularly below. The Amazon Defendants have purposefully and voluntarily placed one or more of their infringing products, as described below, into the stream of commerce with the awareness and/or intent that these products will be purchased by consumers in this District. The Amazon Defendants have knowingly and purposefully shipped infringing products into and within this District through an established distribution channel. These infringing products have been and continue to be purchased by consumers in this District.

10. VoIP-Pal's claim for relief for patent infringement arises directly from the activities of the Amazon Defendants in this District. On information and belief, the Amazon Defendants, directly and/or through their customers have transacted business in this District and has committed acts of patent infringement in this District. The Amazon Defendants maintain a corporate offices in this District at 11501 and 11601 Alterra Parkway, Austin, Texas 78758. Thus, the Amazon Defendants have a regular and established place of business in this District. Thus, venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(b).

## BACKGROUND OF THE TECHNOLOGY AND THE PATENT-IN-SUIT

- 11. United States Patent No. 10,218,606 (the "'606 patent") entitled "Producing Routing Messages For Voice Over IP Communications" was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 26, 2019. A copy of the '606 patent is attached to this Complaint as Exhibit 1.
  - 12. The '606 patent is referred to in this Complaint as the "Patent-in-Suit."
- 13. The inventions of the Patent-in-Suit originated from breakthrough work and development in the internet protocol communications field.



- 14. VoIP-Pal has provided significant improvements to communications technology by the invention of novel methods, processes and apparatuses that facilitate communications across and between internet protocol based communication systems and networks, such as internally controlled systems and external networks (e.g., across private networks and between private networks and public networks), including the classification and routing thereof.
- 15. The earliest telephone systems to receive public use within the United States involved a telephone directly connected to a human operator. A portion of the phone rested on a mechanical hook such that the operator was signaled when the portion was lifted from the hook. A caller would then say the name of the person they wished to call to the operator. If the callee was connected to the same telephone switch board the operator would physically pull out a cable associated with the caller's phone and plug the cable into a socket associated with the callee's telephone. If the callee was associated with a different switchboard, and thus out of reach of the operator, a second operator would be involved to bridge the gap to the appropriate switchboard. While initially very effective compared to no telephone service, this structure quickly proved error prone (operators would connect the wrong party) and limiting to the number of possible telephones because of the physical limits of switchboards and cable to be pulled. This basic system corresponds to the introduction of a Plain Old Telephone Service ("POTS") connection to the operator. In these configurations, there was a dedicated, point-to-point electrical connection between the caller and the callee.
- 16. Rotary dialing eventually was introduced, beginning at around the turn of the 20th century, where a rotary disk was marked with numbers from zero to nine. A caller would spin the wheel and a mechanical device in the telephone would cause a sequence of electrical pulses to be sent to the network corresponding to the digit dialed, for example, four pulses would be sent for



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