

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 30<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
INGHAM COUNTY

In The Matter Of:

Popular Leasing USA, Inc.  
Respondent.

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File No. 06-47-CZ

Hon. Beverly Nettles-Nickerson

AG File No. 2006018329A

**ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE**

MICHAEL A. COX  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Kathy Fitzgerald  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
P.O. Box 30213  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517-335-0855

Dated Filed: August 24, 2006

IN THE MATTER OF  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.

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**ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE**

1. This Assurance of Voluntary Compliance<sup>1</sup> ("Assurance") is entered into by the Attorneys General<sup>2</sup> (collectively, "Attorneys General") of the States of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia, (collectively, "Participating States"), and the Respondent Popular Leasing USA, Inc. ("PLUSA").
2. PLUSA is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware.
3. PLUSA has its principal place of business at 15933 Clayton Road, Suite 200, Ballwin, Missouri, 63011.
4. PLUSA is one of the leasing companies that purchased and holds Equipment Rental Agreements with customers of NorVergence, Inc. ("NorVergence") who reside in the Participating States and elsewhere.

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<sup>1</sup> This Assurance of Voluntary Compliance shall, for all necessary purposes, also be considered an Assurance of Discontinuance.

<sup>2</sup> Of the states listed, Connecticut is represented by the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection, who enters into this Assurance pursuant to the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act, Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 42-110j, acting by and through his counsel, Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General for the State of Connecticut. Georgia is represented by the Administrator of the Fair Business Practices Act, who is statutorily authorized to undertake consumer protection functions for the State of Georgia, including acceptance of Assurances of Voluntary Compliance. For simplicity purposes, the entire group will be referred to as the "Attorneys General," and such designation, as it includes Connecticut, refers to the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection, and as it includes Georgia, refers to the Administrator of the Fair Business Practices Act.

## BACKGROUND

5. This Assurance follows an inquiry by the Attorneys General into PLUSA's business dealings with regard to the Rental Agreements. This inquiry was part of a larger inquiry regarding whether the practices of NorVergence and those of PLUSA and other financing companies in connection with the Rental Agreements violate any of the consumer protection statutes listed herein at footnote 3.<sup>3</sup>

### **NorVergence's Allegedly Fraudulent Business Scheme**

6. The Attorneys General of Illinois, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Texas and the Federal Trade Commission sued NorVergence, alleging that NorVergence's business practices violate their respective consumer protection statutes.
7. Among other things, these complaints filed against NorVergence included the following allegations:
- a. That NorVergence's sales presentations contained a number of misrepresentations about the nature of NorVergence's offer, including, but not limited to, that:

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<sup>3</sup> California Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, and 17500 *et seq.*; Colorado Consumer Protection Act, C.R.S. §§ 6-1-101 *et seq.*; Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 42-110b(a), *et seq.*; Del. Code Ann. tit. 6, § 2511 *et seq.*; District of Columbia Consumer Protection Procedures Act, D.C. Code § 28-3901, *et seq.*; Georgia Fair Business Practices Act of 1975, O.C.G.A. 10-1-390, Ga. Code Ann. § 10-1-399, *et seq.*; Iowa Consumer Fraud Act, Iowa Code § 714.16; Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, 815 ILCS § 505/1, *et seq.*; Kansas Consumer Protection Act, K.S.A. 50-623, *et seq.*; Kentucky Consumer Protection Statute, K.R.S. 367.170; Louisiana Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, L.A.R.S. 51:1401 *et seq.*; Maryland Consumer Protection Act, Maryland Commercial Law Code Annotated § 2-302, *et seq.*; Massachusetts Consumer Protection Act, M. G. L. c. 93A, §§ 1-11, *et seq.*; Michigan Consumer Protection Act, M. C. L. § 445.901, *et seq.*; Missouri Merchandising Practices Act, §§ 407.010 *et seq.*; Regulation of Business Practices for Consumer Protection, N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 358-A, *et seq.*; North Carolina Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices Act, N.C.G.S. § 75-1.1; Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. § 1345.01 *et seq.*; Pennsylvania Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, 73 P.S. §§ 201-1, *et seq.*; and Rhode Island Deceptive Trade Practices Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 6-13.1-1, *et seq.*; Washington Consumer Protection Act, R.C.W. 19.86 *et seq.*; West Virginia Code Section 46A-1-101 *et seq.*

- i. NorVergence was offering to lower a potential customer's monthly expenses for telephone service, high speed Internet service, and wireless telephone service, which discounts could be achieved by installing the Matrix box NorVergence was offering potential customers;
  - ii. NorVergence could eliminate all per-minute charges for telephone service, high-speed Internet service, and wireless telephone service using special "voice as data" technology contained in the Matrix box;
  - iii. NorVergence arrived at the price for a 60 month contract for the provision of discounted telecommunications services by taking a percentage discount from a customer's monthly telecommunications expenses, usually 30%, and multiplying the remaining percentage, usually 70%, by 60; and
  - iv. In the event NorVergence went out of business, customers' telecommunications service would not be interrupted.
- b. In fact:
- i. The Matrix box NorVergence was offering takes one of two formats: it is either a T1 box, which has nothing to do with cellular service, or a firewall/router, which has nothing to do with landline telephone service or cellular service;
  - ii. The Matrix box has an estimated retail value of \$400 to \$1,500;
  - iii. NorVergence crafted the transactions in such a way that the majority of the 60 month contract monthly payment was contained in an "Equipment Rental Agreement", purportedly for the cost of the Matrix box;

- iv. NorVergence immediately assigned its Rental Agreements to various finance companies or caused its customers to execute Rental Agreements directly with finance companies;
  - v. If NorVergence went out of business, it had no arrangements to provide telecommunications services to its customers; and
  - vi. Shortly after NorVergence's creditors forced the company into bankruptcy on June 30, 2004, NorVergence ceased providing telecommunications services to all of its customers.
- c. The complaints also alleged that NorVergence included unfair terms in its Rental Agreements, such as the purported waiver of defenses clause and the floating venue clause, and failed to disclose clearly and conspicuously the material terms and conditions of those Rental Agreements.

#### **PLUSA's Activities in Connection with the NorVergence Equipment Rental Agreements**

8. In many cases, shortly after the Rental Agreements were executed between NorVergence and its customers, these agreements were assigned to finance companies. In other cases, customers entered into Rental Agreements directly with finance companies.
9. PLUSA sent monthly invoices to the customers in connection with all the NorVergence Rental Agreements which were assigned to PLUSA, and accepted payment from customers on those invoices.

#### **The Attorneys General's Position**

10. The Attorneys General allege that consumers in their states were fraudulently induced to sign the NorVergence agreements, and that such agreements are void *ab initio*.

11. The Attorneys General allege that PLUSA knew or should have known of the alleged fraud perpetrated by NorVergence and is not entitled to collect from its customers in the Participating States.
12. The Attorneys General also allege that, under the circumstances, the Rental Agreements are unconscionable in that they contain terms that are unreasonable, unfairly harsh, and one-sided in favor of NorVergence and the leasing companies, all in violation of the statutes set forth in footnote 3 to this Assurance and in violation of Section 2-302 of the Uniform Commercial Code or the individual States' versions of Section 2-302.

#### **PLUSA's Position**

13. PLUSA denies that it knew or should have known of any alleged fraud perpetrated by NorVergence. PLUSA asserts that it is not legally responsible for any such alleged fraud perpetrated by NorVergence, and contends that, in accordance with the law of each Participating State, the Rental Agreements with NorVergence customers remain fully enforceable according to their terms notwithstanding any improper conduct by NorVergence.
14. PLUSA expressly denies any alleged violation of law, factual findings or legal conclusions contained herein, or that it engaged in any unlawful conduct or business practices and expressly denies that it is liable to any person or entity in connection with the rental of NorVergence telecommunications equipment.
15. At the same time, in light of the allegations directed at NorVergence, the impact of the NorVergence conduct on PLUSA's customers, and the concerns expressed by the Participating States, PLUSA is willing to afford its NorVergence customers an

opportunity to be released from their obligations under the Rental Agreements pursuant to the conditions described herein.

#### **TERMS OF ASSURANCE**

16. This Assurance shall be binding upon and extend to PLUSA, its principals, officers, directors, agents (including, but not limited to third party collection agents), employees, successors and assigns, and any entity or device through which it may now or hereafter act, as well as any persons who have authority to control or who, in fact, control and direct its business.
17. By entering into this Assurance, the Parties agree that there are no admissions of wrongdoing or findings of liability or wrongdoing on the part of PLUSA, that there has been no concession or agreement by PLUSA as to the validity and/or merits of any investigation. This Assurance does not indicate or constitute the existence or non-existence of any fact or circumstance that may have been alleged in connection herewith by any of the Attorneys General or by PLUSA. PLUSA is entering into this Assurance solely for the purpose of settlement of disputed claims, and to avoid the expense, uncertainty, delay, and inconvenience that would be associated with continued investigation and potential litigation of the issues. Neither the existence of, negotiation of, nor the terms of this Assurance, nor of any offer made to or agreed upon with any State Customer pursuant hereto shall, in any future proceeding other than for enforcement, default, or breach of this Assurance, be referred to or offered in evidence of wrongdoing, for any purpose, by any person. A State Customer is any PLUSA customer in any Participating State that has a NorVergence Rental Agreement.

18. The Participating States acknowledge that PLUSA has cooperated fully with the investigation in an effort to satisfy the interests of the Attorneys General and the State Customers.
19. By entering into this agreement, PLUSA agrees that the participating states have not approved, sanctioned, or authorized any act or practice of PLUSA, except as to actions required to comply with the terms of this Assurance.

Customer Settlement Program

20. Each State Customer who elects to participate in, and fully perform under, the settlement terms in the manner described herein will be referred to as a "Participating Customer." Each State Customer who settled its claims with PLUSA after July 15, 2004 (a "Previously Settled Customer") also is eligible to be a Participating Customer on the terms and conditions described in paragraph 22 of this Assurance.
21. PLUSA will offer the following settlement terms to any Participating Customer, other than a Previously Settled Customer, and any personal guarantor the Participating Customer may have:
  - a. Each Participating Customer must pay all amounts due on its Rental Agreement through July 15, 2004, including any and all monthly payments and charges for late fees, taxes, and 33% of all insurance-related charges due up to July 15, 2004 ("Cure Amount");
  - b. Once Each Participating Customer has paid all amounts due on its Rental Agreement through July 15, 2004, as set forth above in Paragraph 21a, PLUSA will forgive eighty-five percent (85%) of the remaining contract balance due on

each such Participating Customer's obligations to PLUSA under the Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004;

- c. PLUSA will forgive any late fees, penalties or insurance charges assessed on the Participating Customer's account with PLUSA after July 15, 2004, and PLUSA will forgive or refund 67% of any insurance-related charges on the Participating Customer's account that were assessed or paid on or before July 15, 2004; and
- d. As to each Participating Customer, other than a Previously Settled Customer, PLUSA agrees to accept, in full satisfaction of the Customer's obligations to PLUSA under the Customer's Rental Agreement and any personal guarantor's obligations under any related guarantee, payment of the Cure Amount, plus payment of fifteen percent (15%) of the remaining contract balance due to PLUSA under the Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004 (including any applicable sales taxes thereon or in connection therewith), minus any monthly payments, late fees, penalties or insurance charges which were due and paid by the Customer after July 15, 2004 ("Settlement Balance").
- e. PLUSA shall fully credit each Participating Customer for any payments it has made pursuant to the Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004, including, but not limited to, monthly payments and charges for insurance, late fees, and taxes. Payments made after July 15, 2004, which were due on or before that date will reduce the Participating Customer's remaining balance after July 15, 2004. Payments made after July 15, 2004, which were due after that date will be credited against the Participating Customer's Settlement Balance. PLUSA shall

issue refunds to those Participating Customers whose payments due and paid after July 15, 2004, exceed the Participating Customer's Settlement Balance.

- f. Within thirty (30) days of the delivery of documents by which any State Customer elects to become a Participating Customer, PLUSA shall withdraw or cause to be corrected any and all adverse credit information filed by it, if any, as to the Participating Customer as a result of not receiving payment from that Customer on its Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004, by providing written notification to each credit bureau to whom PLUSA furnished information, if any.

22. PLUSA agrees that the Settlement Balance shall be paid as follows:

- a. The Participating Customer shall either elect to:
  - i. Make a lump sum payment of the entire Settlement Balance; or
  - ii. If the Settlement Balance is less than \$5,000, pay the Settlement Balance, without any interest charge being assessed, in up to twelve (12) equal monthly installment payments. If the Settlement Balance is \$5,000 or higher, pay the Settlement Balance, without any interest charge being assessed, in up to twenty-four (24) equal monthly installment payments.
  - iii. Nothing in this Assurance shall be construed to preclude PLUSA and any Participating Customer from entering into mutually acceptable alternative payment schedules.
- b. If the Participating Customer elects to make a lump sum payment, such payment shall be due within thirty (30) days of the mailing of the fully executed Settlement and Mutual Release by the Participating Customer, as described in paragraph 26 of this Assurance;

- c. If the Participating Customer elects to make installment payments, the first installment payment is to be due no earlier than the thirtieth (30th) day after PLUSA's receipt of the fully executed Release. PLUSA shall provide a bill, on a minimum of fifteen (15) days' notice, to such Participating Customer stating the date the first installment payment is due and its amount. After the first payment, PLUSA shall continue to provide a bill, on a minimum of fifteen (15) days' notice, to such Participating Customer stating the date the next installment payment is due and its amount, until the final payment.
  - d. Any Participating Customer who begins paying its Settlement Balance may pre-pay the remaining balance at any time without penalty.
  - e. In the event no Settlement Balance is due from a Participating Customer and a refund is warranted, PLUSA shall pay any such refund within thirty (30) days of PLUSA's receipt of the fully executed Settlement and Mutual Release.
23. Within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this Assurance, PLUSA shall mail a Settlement Letter (in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit A) to each State Customer, other than a Previously Settled Customer, who entered into a Rental Agreement and to any personal guarantor thereof. In this mailing, PLUSA will print on the outside of the envelope the following: "NorVergence-Related Settlement Material Enclosed" in at least 12 point typeface. Each Participating Customer will have 35 days from the date of the mailing of the Settlement Letter to respond to PLUSA to indicate whether they will accept the terms of settlement. If any of the letters described in this paragraph are returned to PLUSA as undeliverable, PLUSA must make reasonable commercial efforts

to locate that customer. As set forth in Exhibit A, PLUSA shall inform each Participating Customer and personal guarantor of, among other things, the following:

- a. The thirty-five (35) day opportunity to elect to participate in the settlement described herein for Participating Customers in exchange for a release of all claims against PLUSA relating to NorVergence;
- b. The Settlement Balance due from that State Customer and personal guarantor (which shall include any Cure Amount or whether the State Customer is entitled to a refund and the amount of such refund); and
- c. If a settlement balance is due, the State Customer's and/or personal guarantor's options for paying the Settlement Balance if the Customer elects to participate in the settlement.

24. PLUSA will offer the settlement terms set forth above in paragraphs 21a-f and 22a-c to each Previously Settled Customer, and any personal guarantor it may have, who shall be eligible as Participating Customers under such paragraphs, with the following exceptions:

- a. The forgiveness percent set forth in paragraph 21b shall be eighty percent (80%) for Previously Settled Customers;
- b. The percent of the remaining contract balance due PLUSA under the Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004, set forth in paragraph 21d shall be twenty percent (20%) for Previously Settled Customers;
- c. The credit for payments referenced in paragraph 21e shall include payments made by each Previously Settled Customer after July 15, 2004, under its prior settlement with PLUSA.

25. Within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this Assurance, PLUSA shall mail a letter in the form of Exhibit A-1 to any Previously Settled Customer and any personal guarantor thereof, who agreed to and/or executed with PLUSA after July 15, 2004, an independent settlement agreement or restructured contract (a restructured contract is a contract where PLUSA allowed State Customers to restructure the payments and the schedule of the payments of State Customers' Rental Agreements). In this mailing, PLUSA will print on the outside of the envelope the following: "NorVergence-Related Settlement Material Enclosed" in at least 12 point typeface. Each Previously Settled Customer will have thirty-five (35) days from the date of mailing of the letter to respond to PLUSA to indicate whether they will elect to revise their existing settlement. If any of the letters described in this paragraph are returned to PLUSA as undeliverable, PLUSA must make reasonable commercial efforts to locate that customer. As set forth in Exhibit A-1, PLUSA shall inform each Previously Settled Customer and personal guarantor of, among other things, the following:

- a. The thirty-five (35) day opportunity to elect to revise the Previously Settled Customer's existing settlement or restructured contract and to participate in the settlement described herein for Previously Settled Customers in exchange for a release of all claims against PLUSA relating to NorVergence; and
- b. If the State Customer elects to revise its settlement, the Settlement Balance due (which shall include any Cure Amount or whether the State Customer is entitled to a refund and the amount of such refund); and

- c. If a settlement balance is due, the State Customer's and/or personal guarantor's options for paying the Settlement Balance if the Customer elects to participate in the settlement.
26. PLUSA shall include with the letters referenced in paragraphs 23 and 25 of this Assurance a document titled "Settlement and Mutual Release." Letters in the form of Exhibit A annexed hereto will be accompanied by a Settlement and Mutual Release in the form of Exhibit B annexed hereto and letters in the form of Exhibit A-1 will be accompanied by a Settlement and Mutual Release in form of Exhibit B-1. As referenced in those letters, each Participating Customer will be required to provide a notarized signature of a duly authorized owner, officer, partner or other agent of the company and/or of the personal guarantor on the Settlement and Mutual Release and return the same to PLUSA within thirty-five (35) days of PLUSA's mailing of the letter.
27. To the extent set forth in the Settlement and Mutual Release, each Participating Customer shall provide PLUSA with a release of claims arising under the Rental Agreement and any and all NorVergence related issues. As to each Participating Customer who executes a Settlement and Mutual Release, PLUSA shall provide a release of claims arising under the Rental Agreement, to the extent set forth in the Settlement and Mutual Release. To the extent set forth in the Settlement and Mutual Release, each Participating Customer and PLUSA shall agree to mutually dismiss with prejudice (and without award of costs or attorneys' fees to any party) any pending litigation arising from the Rental Agreement or PLUSA's efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement.
28. If a State Customer who executes a Settlement and Mutual Release defaults in payment of their Settlement Balances, PLUSA may seek to enforce the Settlement and Mutual

Release in full and make use of any of the remedies available to it under the law. If PLUSA chooses to file a lawsuit to enforce the Settlement and Mutual Release, it shall file the lawsuit in a state permitted by paragraph 30 below.

29. Except as provided by the terms of this Assurance, PLUSA further agrees that it shall not institute any civil action against a Participating Customer for breach of its Rental Agreement or otherwise seek to enforce the Rental Agreement against any Participating Customer. PLUSA will dismiss any pending litigation against any Participating Customer who is a party to existing litigation provided that, if any such Participating Customer has brought counterclaims or separate claims against PLUSA, such claims will be dismissed by the Participating Customer as a condition to PLUSA's dismissal, which may be accomplished by proffering to and obtaining from counsel for the Participating Customer a stipulation dismissing any and all such claims and counterclaims.
30. In the event that any State Customer does not accept the Settlement outlined in this Assurance and requested in the attached Settlement and Mutual Release documentation within thirty-five (35) days allotted or does not execute the Settlement and Mutual Release, the Rental Agreement shall remain in full force and effect, except as noted below, and shall be enforceable by all parties to the same extent that it had been enforceable prior to and without regard to PLUSA's settlement offer. Notwithstanding any provision authorizing otherwise in any Rental Agreement, if PLUSA chooses to enforce the Rental Agreement pursuant to this paragraph 30 of the Assurance, or chooses to enforce the Settlement and Mutual Release pursuant to paragraph 28 of the Assurance, then any lawsuit it initiates shall be filed by PLUSA in the state of the State Customer's residence, unless the State Customer objects thereto, or unless any State Customer has

initiated litigation against PLUSA, in which case PLUSA may assert counterclaims or separate claims against such State Customer where such action is pending. If the State Customer does not accept the Settlement outlined in this Assurance and PLUSA has previously initiated a lawsuit against the State Customer in a state other than that permitted by the preceding sentence, PLUSA will dismiss its lawsuit without prejudice, provided, however, that in the event the State Customer shall have asserted counterclaims or separate claims against PLUSA in the same action, then dismissal of the action by PLUSA shall be contingent upon dismissal of the counterclaims or other claims by the State Customer. If PLUSA chooses to refile its lawsuit, it shall file the lawsuit in a state permitted by this paragraph.

#### **Affidavits of Compliance**

31. Within ninety (90) days of the Effective Date of this Assurance, PLUSA shall submit an affidavit to each Attorney General, subscribed to by an officer of PLUSA:
  - a. Attesting that it sent the letters to the State Customers in such Attorney General's state in accordance with the terms of this Assurance, including in the attestation the names and addresses of the recipients of such letters;
  - b. Providing an accounting of the Participating Customers, including the Participating Customers' Settlement Balances and payment schedules elected or agreed upon; and
  - c. Providing the names of the State Customers whose letters were undeliverable.
32. Within six months from the Effective Date of this Assurance, PLUSA shall submit to each Attorney General an affidavit, subscribed to by an officer of PLUSA:

- a. Affirming its compliance with the provisions of this Assurance as to the Participating Customers in that Attorney General's state;
  - b. Providing an accounting of the Participating Customers, including the terms of their payment schedules and payments made.
33. On or after the second anniversary of the date of this Assurance, the Attorneys General may request in writing a further updated affidavit setting forth PLUSA's compliance with the provisions of this Assurance as to the Participating Customers from that Attorney General's state and an updated accounting of the Participating Customers from that Attorney General's state, including the terms of their payment schedules and payments made, and PLUSA shall submit such an affidavit within forty-five (45) days of any such request
34. The affidavits to be provided pursuant to paragraphs 31, 32 and 33 of this Assurance shall be used only for the purposes of assuring compliance with this Assurance, and shall not be used, cited or referred to for any other purposes whatsoever, and shall not constitute any admission of liability or obligation whatsoever on the part of PLUSA, except to provide to the Participating States information concerning the status and compliance with this Assurance.

#### **General Provisions**

35. The Parties have entered into this Assurance on their own free and voluntary act and with full knowledge and understanding of the obligations and duties imposed by this Assurance.
36. This Assurance shall be binding upon PLUSA as well as its principals, officers, directors, agents (including, but not limited to, third party collection agents), employees, successors

and assigns, and any entity or device through which it may now or hereafter act, as well as any persons who have authority to control or who, in fact, control and direct its business. In no event shall assignment of any right, power, or authority under this Assurance avoid the obligation to comply with this Assurance.

37. The Parties have negotiated, jointly drafted, and fully reviewed the terms of this Assurance and the rule that uncertainty or ambiguity is to be construed against the drafter shall not apply to the construction or interpretation of this Assurance.
38. As used in this Assurance, the plural shall include the singular and the singular shall include the plural.
39. Except as otherwise explicitly provided in this Assurance, nothing herein shall be construed to limit the authority of the Attorneys General to protect the interests of the Participating States or the people of these States.
40. If any portion of this Assurance is held invalid or unenforceable by operation of law, the remaining terms of this Assurance shall not be affected.
41. This Assurance contains the entire agreement among the Parties. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Assurance may be modified only by a written instrument signed by or on behalf of a Participating State and PLUSA, and then shall be binding only with respect to any or each such State so executing.
42. The exhibits to this Assurance are and shall be considered a part of this Assurance.
43. The Parties have agreed to this Assurance for only settlement purposes. Neither the fact of, nor any provision contained in, this Assurance nor any action taken hereunder shall constitute, or be construed as:

- a. An approval, sanction, or authorization by the Attorneys General of any act or practice of PLUSA;
  - b. Having any impact on the business practices of PLUSA, including but not limited to, the terms of equipment rental or lease agreements, other than as specifically provided herein regarding the rental of NorVergence equipment;
  - c. An admission by PLUSA that any of its acts or practices described in or prohibited by this Assurance are unfair or deceptive or violate any of the consumer protection or other laws of any of the Participating States;
  - d. An agreement or admission by any party to this Assurance as to the existence or non-existence of any fact or allegation that has been made in connection herewith;  
or
  - e. An agreement or admission by any party to this Assurance as to the applicability of any statute, law, rule, or regulation to the business or agreements of PLUSA, except to the extent, and then solely for the purposes provided for, herein.
44. Each person executing this Assurance represents to the other party to the Assurance that he or she is duly authorized to execute and deliver this Assurance, and that, upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, this Assurance shall be a valid, binding, and enforceable agreement, and that all formalities required therefore have been or will be undertaken.
45. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, any signature by the parties to this Assurance may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall be one and the same Assurance.

### **Rights of Customers and PLUSA**

46. Nothing in this Assurance shall be construed to prevent any State Customer or PLUSA (collectively referred to as "rental parties") from pursuing any right or remedy which one rental party may have against the other, except to the extent that a Participating Customer executes a Settlement and Mutual Release pursuant to this Assurance, in which event the rights of the rental parties shall be as provided for therein.

### **Effective Date**

47. This assurance shall be effective on August 24, 2006 ("Effective Date"). This Assurance shall expire forty-five (45) days after provision of a final affidavit of compliance to each Attorney General, subscribed to under penalty of perjury by an officer of PLUSA; such affidavit shall include a final accounting of all Participating Customers from that Attorney General's state, the terms of their payment schedules and payments made, and attest that the Customer Settlement Program has been completed as to all of the Participating Customers from that Attorney General's state. However, the terms of this assurance will continue to apply in any litigation concerning a NorVergence Equipment Rental Agreement between PLUSA and a State Customer who declined to participate in the Customer Settlement Program described herein. Notwithstanding the above, expiration of this Assurance shall not relieve PLUSA of any obligations that it was required to perform, but failed to perform, prior to the Assurance's expiration. If any of the information provided by PLUSA, pursuant to either this paragraph or paragraphs 31-33 above, in any of the compliance affidavits is discovered to be inaccurate, PLUSA shall provide the Attorneys General with amended affidavits correcting the inaccuracies and attesting to its compliance with its prior obligations

### **Violation of Assurance as Prima Facie Proof of Violation of Consumer Protection Statutes**

48. The parties understand that pursuant to the statutes cited in footnote 3 to this Assurance, where so provided by a specific state law, a violation of any term of this Assurance shall constitute prima facie evidence of a violation of those statutes in any subsequent proceedings brought by the Attorneys General against PLUSA or any of its officers, agents, directors or employees. It is further understood that upon any default, an Attorney General's Office has the right to file appropriate legal proceedings to enforce this Assurance. Nothing herein shall prevent PLUSA from raising any claim, challenge, or defense to any action by an Attorney General pursuant to the terms of this paragraph, however, in no event will PLUSA be permitted to challenge the existence of this Assurance or its terms in any such action.

### **Release**

49. The Attorneys General acknowledge that execution of this Assurance constitutes a complete settlement and release by the Attorneys General of all the civil claims and causes of action for damages, fines, costs, restitution, injunction, penalties, and any other remedies that were asserted or could have been asserted by the Attorneys General, either individually or collectively, on or prior to the effective date of this Assurance against PLUSA arising from the subject matter set forth in this Assurance and pursuant to any common law authority each of the Attorneys General possess, and pursuant to any consumer deceptive or unfair trade practices statutes listed in footnote 3 of this Assurance and the regulations promulgated pursuant to such statutes, as well as any consumer protection laws that each of the Attorneys General has authority to enforce. This release does not in any way limit the Attorney General's right to bring any claim or cause of

action for any allegation not covered by the subject matter of this Assurance nor does it bind any other officers or agencies of the Participating States.

**THE PARTIES TO THIS ASSURANCE CONSENT TO THE FORM, CONTENT, AND ENTRY OF THIS ASSURANCE ON THE DATES UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE SIGNATURES.**

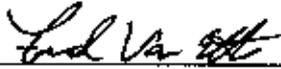
IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.

LETTER AGREEMENT OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

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POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.

By:   
Name: Frederick M. Van Etten  
Title: President

Date: August 21, 2006

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton S. Friedman, Esq.  
Buchalter Nemer  
Counsel for Popular Leasing USA, Inc.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2006

IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.

ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

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POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2006

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Clayton S. Friedman, Esq.

Buchalter Nemer

Counsel for Popular Leasing USA, Inc.

Date: Aug 18, 2006

IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

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Dated: August 22, 2006

BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General  
of the State of California

By:



David M. Tiede (#167008)  
Deputy Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General  
110 W. A Street, Suite 1100  
San Diego, CA 92101  
(619) 645-2093

IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

)  
)  
) ss.  
)  
)

Dated: August 18, 2006

ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOHN W. SUTHERS  
Attorney General

By: Andrew P. McCallin  
Andrew P. McCallin, Reg. No. 20909  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Section  
1525 Sherman Street - 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
(303) 866-5134

IN THE MATTER OF )  
 )  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: August 14, 2006

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL  
Attorney General  
State of Connecticut  
on behalf of

COMMISSIONER EDWIN RODRIGUEZ  
State of Connecticut  
Department of Consumer Protection

By: Valerie J. Bryan  
Valerie J. Bryan  
Assistant Attorney General  
110 Sherman Street  
Hartford, CT 06105  
(860) 808-5420

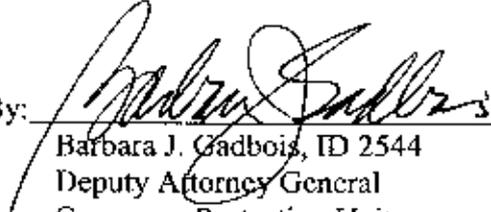
IN THE MATTER OF )  
 )  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: August 7, 2006



CARL C. DANBERG  
Attorney General of Delaware

By: \_\_\_\_\_



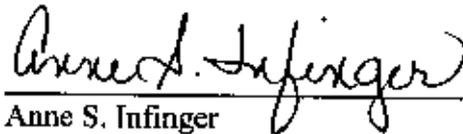
Barbara J. Gadbois, ID 2544  
Deputy Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Unit  
820 N. French Street, Fifth Floor  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
(302) 577-8600

IN THE MATTER OF  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

)  
)  
)

Dated: August 11, 2006

JOSEPH B. DOYLE  
Administrator, Governor's Office of Consumer  
Affairs



---

Anne S. Infinger  
Deputy Administrator  
Investigative and Legal Division  
Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Suite 356  
Atlanta, GA 30334-4600

IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

)  
)  
)

Dated: 8/18, 2006

LISA MADIGAN  
Attorney General  
State of Illinois

By: 

Louis Gale  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Fraud Bureau  
500 S. Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217) 782-4436

IN THE MATTER OF

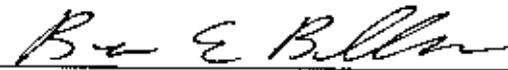
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

)  
)  
)

Dated: August 18, 2006

THOMAS J. MILLER  
Attorney General of Iowa

By:

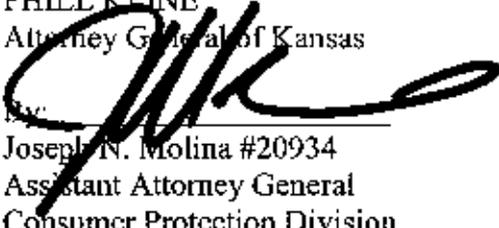


BENJAMIN E. BELLUS AT0000688  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
1305 East Walnut, 2nd Floor  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Telephone: (515) 281-5926

IN THE MATTER OF )  
 )  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2006

PHILL KLINE  
Attorney General of Kansas  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph N. Molina #20934  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
120 S.W. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Topeka, KS 66612  
(785) 296-3751

IN THE MATTER OF )  
 )  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: August 15, 2006

GREGORY D. STUMBO  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF KENTUCKY

By: Maryellen B. Mynear  
Maryellen B. Mynear  
Litigation Manager/Assistant Attorney General

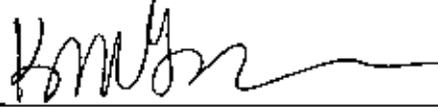
Consumer Protection Division  
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 696-5389

IN THE MATTER OF  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

)  
)  
)

Dated: August 14, 2006

CHARLES C. FOTI, JR.  
Attorney General  
State of Louisiana

By: 

Kristi M. Garcia, La. Bar Roll No. 27472  
Assistant Attorney General  
Public Protection Division  
Consumer Protection Section  
1885 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802  
(225)326-6460 Phone  
(225)326-6499 Fax

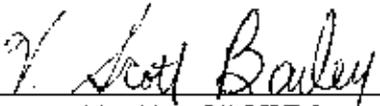
**IN THE MATTER OF**

**POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE**

Dated: August 14, 2006

J. JOSEPH CURRAN, JR.  
Attorney General of the State of Maryland

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
~~WILLIAM D. GRUHN~~  
VERNON SCOTT BAILEY  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
Office of the Attorney General  
200 St. Paul Place, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
410-576-6349

IN THE MATTER OF )

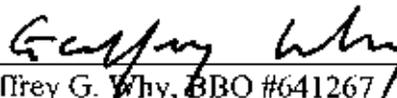
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )

ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: Aug. 15, 2006

THOMAS F. REILLY  
Attorney General  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

By:   
Scott D. Schafer, BBO #631384  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection and Antitrust Division  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 727-2200

By:   
Geoffrey G. Why, BBO #641267  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection and Antitrust Division  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 727-2200

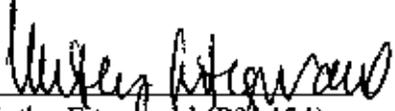
In the Matter of:

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

MICHAEL A. COX  
Attorney General  
State of Michigan

Dated: August 14, 2006

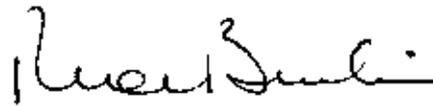
By:

  
Kathy Fitzgerald (P30454)  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
P.O. Box 30213  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(517) 335-0855

IN THE MATTER OF )  
 )  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: August 11, 2006

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON  
Missouri Attorney General



---

Rex M. Burlison, #29935  
Chief Counsel, Eastern District  
Laclede Gas Building  
720 Olive Street, Suite 2150  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101  
Telephone: 314.340.7652  
Facsimile: 314.340.7891

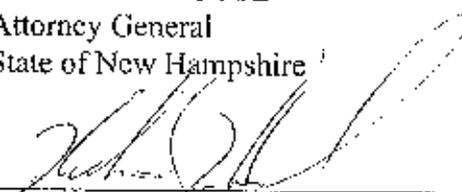
IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

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Dated: 8/11/06, 2006

KELLY A. AYOTTE  
Attorney General  
State of New Hampshire

By:   
Richard W. Head  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection and Antitrust Bureau  
33 Capitol Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 271-3643

IN THE MATTER OF )  
 )  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: August 10, 2006

ROY COOPER  
Attorney General  
State of North Carolina

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Kevin Anderson  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
North Carolina Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 629  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-0629  
919-716-6052

IN THE MATTER OF:

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

Dated: August 17, 2006

JIM PETRO  
Attorney General  
State of Ohio

By: 

Michael S. Ziegler  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Section  
30 East Broad Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614/644-9618

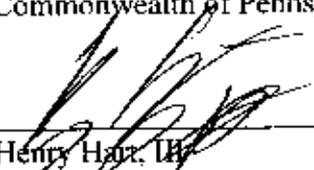
IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

)  
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Dated: August 15, 2006

THOMAS W. CORBETT, JR.  
Attorney General  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

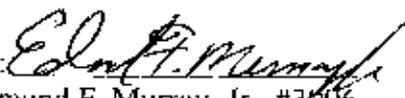
By:   
Henry Hart, III  
Senior Deputy Attorney General  
PA Office of Attorney General  
Bureau of Consumer Protection  
21 S. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
(215) 560-2414

IN THE MATTER OF:

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

Dated: August 4, 2006

PATRICK C. LYNCH  
Attorney General  
State of Rhode Island

By:   
Edmund F. Murray, Jr., #3096  
Special Assistant Attorney General  
150 South Main Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 274-4400 ext. 2401

IN THE MATTER OF )

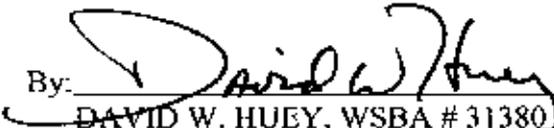
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )

ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: August 15, 2006

ROB MCKENNA  
Attorney General  
State of Washington

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
DAVID W. HUEY, WSBA # 31380

Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
1019 Pacific Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 2317  
Tacoma, WA 98401-2317  
(253) 593-5057

IN THE MATTER OF )

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. )  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE )

Dated: 8/18/06, 2006

DARRELL V. McGRAW, JR.  
Attorney General  
State of West Virginia

By:

  
CHRISTOPHER HEDGES  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
Consumer Protection/Antitrust Division  
Post Office Box 1789  
Charleston, West Virginia 25301  
Telephone: 304-558-8986  
Facsimile: 304-558-0184

IN THE MATTER OF

POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

)  
)  
)

Dated: Aug. 18, 2006

ROBERT J. SPAGNOLETTI  
Attorney General for the District of Columbia

DAVID M. RUBENSTEIN  
Deputy Attorney General  
Public Safety Division

By: *Bennett Rushkoff*  
BENNETT RUSHKOFF  
Chief, Consumer and Trade Protection Section  
Office of the Attorney General  
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 450-N  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 727-3500

Attorneys for the District of Columbia

EXHIBIT

A

EXHIBIT A  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
SETTLEMENT LETTER

\_\_\_\_\_, 2006

[Insert Customer Name]

[Insert Guarantor Name]

**RE: NOTICE TO FORMER [INSERT STATE NAME] NORVERGENCE  
CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE EQUIPMENT RENTAL AGREEMENTS  
WITH POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. ("PLUSA"), AND TO ANY  
GUARANTORS**

Dear [Insert Customer Name] and/or [Insert Guarantor Name]

You are receiving this notice because the records of Popular Leasing USA, Inc. ("PLUSA") reflect that [Insert Customer Name] entered into an Equipment Rental Agreement (referred to herein as the "Rental Agreement") with NorVergence, Inc. ("NorVergence"), and that the Rental Agreement is now held by PLUSA. Pursuant to an agreement with the Attorney General of the State of [Insert State Name] (the "Attorney General"), PLUSA is pleased to offer you the opportunity to participate in a Settlement Program by which you may resolve any outstanding balance on the Rental Agreement at a substantial discount, and settle any and all disputes between you and PLUSA arising from or relating to the Rental Agreement or PLUSA's efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement.

**Here is a summary of how the Settlement Program would work if you accept it:**

- **You would pay PLUSA any amounts that became due under the Rental Agreement through July 15, 2004, plus 15% of the amounts coming due under the Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004, plus applicable taxes;**
- **Any amounts you paid to PLUSA after July 15, 2004 would be applied to reduce the amount you would pay PLUSA under the Settlement Program (or refunded to you, to the extent you have already paid more than that amount); and**
- **You and PLUSA would exchange mutual releases.**

**The Settlement Program is described in more detail in the rest of this letter and the form of Settlement and Mutual Release that is enclosed. You should review those documents carefully. In case of any disagreement between the summary above and the more detailed description, the more detailed description will govern.**

### The Settlement Program Offered By PLUSA Leasing Corporation

If you elect to participate in this Settlement Program, PLUSA will: (a) forgive eighty-five percent (85%) of the remaining contract balance payable under your Rental Agreement which is due by you after your bringing your account current to July 15, 2004; (b) forgive any late fees, penalties or insurance charges assessed on your account after July 15, 2004; (c) forgive or refund 67% of any insurance-related charges assessed or paid on your account on or before July 15, 2004; (d) fully credit you for any payments that you have made to PLUSA which were due and paid after July 15, 2004; (e) in the event your payments made after July 15, 2004, exceed the Settlement Balance described below, refund to you the amount in excess of the Settlement Balance; and (f) withdraw, or cause to be corrected, in writing, any and all adverse credit information filed with any credit bureau as a result of not receiving payment on your Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004.

In exchange for the benefits provided above, you must be current on your payments under the Rental Agreement through July 15, 2004, or you must bring your payments current through July 15, 2004. You must also agree to release PLUSA from any claims concerning the Rental Agreement, as described more fully below. You must also agree to pay PLUSA the "Settlement Balance," which is the amount necessary to bring your Rental Agreement current through July 15, 2004 (including applicable taxes plus a credit for 67% of insurance charges assessed or paid on or before July 15, 2004), plus an amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the outstanding balance due under your Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004 (such balance to exclude any late fees, penalties, and insurance charges assessed for the period after July 15, 2004), minus any payments made to PLUSA under your Rental Agreement which were due and paid after July 15, 2004. You may elect to pay the Settlement Balance in one of two ways. You may either make a lump sum payment of the entire Settlement Balance or pay off the Settlement Balance in up to [insert 12 or 24, as appropriate] equal monthly installment payments, with the lump sum payment due within, or the first installment payment to be due no earlier than, thirty (30) days after PLUSA's receipt of the fully executed Release. PLUSA will mail you a bill for the first installment no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the due date. After settlement, you may be responsible for potential tax liabilities including but not limited to property and usage taxes with respect to the Matrix box and other telephone equipment subject to your Rental Agreement. In regards to these taxes, you may have an affirmative obligation to report these tax liabilities to either your local tax assessor or state department of revenue depending on your state's laws.

If you have any questions about these payment options, please contact \_\_\_\_\_ at Rust Consulting, Inc. (800) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_.

You will also have the right to pay the remainder of the Settlement Balance at any time without penalty.

If your account is current through July 15, 2004 and you are entitled to a refund from PLUSA, PLUSA will send the refund to you within thirty (30) days of receipt of the signed Release.

To participate in this Settlement Program, you must complete, sign and have notarized, and return to Popular Leasing USA, Inc. c/o Rust Consulting, Inc, within 30 days from the date of your receipt of this notice, two copies of the enclosed document entitled "Settlement and Mutual Release." In the Settlement and Mutual Release, you must elect and agree to pay the Settlement Balance according to one of the two payment options described above (either lump-sum or installment). Upon your payment of the Settlement Balance, you will receive written notification from PLUSA that the Rental Agreement has been terminated.

By accepting this proposal, you (a) elect and agree to pay the Settlement Balance; and (b) fully release PLUSA from, and agree not to sue PLUSA for, any and all claims that you have or may have had against PLUSA based upon [Insert Customer Name]'s Rental Agreement, including, without limitation, any such claims you may have as a member or representative of various proposed class action lawsuits that have been brought against PLUSA on behalf of asserted classes of NorVergence customers (as well as any such proposed class action lawsuits that may be brought in the future) and any such claims arising out of any efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement. If you are currently involved in any litigation with PLUSA over [Insert Customer Name]'s Rental Agreement and you wish to participate in the Settlement Program, you and PLUSA will mutually dismiss that action with prejudice and without costs or attorneys' fees.

PLUSA, in turn, will fully release you from, and agree not to sue you for or to dismiss you from, any and all claims that it has or may have had against you based upon [Insert Customer Name]'s Rental Agreement. Both you and PLUSA will retain all rights under law to enforce the Settlement and Mutual Release.

PLUSA has agreed to propose this Settlement Program for the purpose of avoiding the expense and inconvenience of litigation and it is not an admission on the part of PLUSA that it engaged in any form of unlawful conduct or business practices. Indeed, PLUSA expressly denies that it engaged in any such unlawful conduct or business practices and expressly denies that it is liable to any person or entity in connection with the rental of NorVergence telecommunications equipment.

**If You Decide Not To Participate In The Settlement Program:**

You are not obligated to participate in the Settlement Program agreed to by PLUSA and the Attorney General, and you may wish to consult with an attorney of your choosing before you decide whether to participate in the Settlement Program. If you elect not to participate in the program, then this Settlement Program will have no impact on any of the terms of your Rental Agreement with PLUSA, and you and PLUSA will each be free to pursue rights and remedies under the law. Even if you do not participate in the Settlement Program, PLUSA has agreed that it will not institute any legal proceedings against you in any court outside the State of [Insert State Name], unless you assert that [Insert State Name] is not the correct forum. Nothing, however, shall prevent PLUSA from asserting a cross-claim or counterclaim in any legal proceedings, to which you are a party, commenced against PLUSA in any court outside the State of [Insert State Name]. Some of the Attorneys General have obtained default judgments against NorVergence, a company now in bankruptcy. NorVergence did not appear in or defend the cases brought against it by the suing Attorneys General. PLUSA was not named as a party in

those cases. Accordingly, the applicability of such default judgments, if any, on the enforceability of the Rental Agreements assigned to, or otherwise held by, PLUSA would have to be determined by an appropriate court should you decide not to participate in the settlement program. The same would be true, with respect to PLUSA, for any additional default judgments that may be sought and obtained by any of the Attorneys General against NorVergence.

**If You Decide To Accept The Settlement Program:**

Currently, the amount necessary to bring your Rental Agreement current through July 15, 2004, is \$\_\_\_\_\_. The remaining balance on your Rental Agreement after you have brought your Rental Agreement account current up through July 15, 2004 is \$\_\_\_\_\_, and if you agree to participate in the Settlement Program, PLUSA will forgive eighty-five percent (85%) of that balance, which results in a savings to you of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

More specifically, PLUSA has the following information about your Rental Agreement and what the Settlement Program would require you to pay:

**Unpaid Balance Due as of July 15, 2004  
(including any and all monthly payments and  
charges for late fees, applicable taxes, and  
33% of insurance-related charges assessed  
on or before July 15, 2004):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Add:  
15% of Remaining Balance Due  
after July 15, 2004, including  
applicable taxes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Minus:  
Amount Due and Paid after July  
15, 2004 (includes any payments  
for monthly rental, late fees,  
penalties, interest, applicable  
taxes, insurance charges):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:  
Amount you need to pay PLUSA (Settlement Balance):** \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
**Amount you will be Refunded by PLUSA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment options: Lump sum payment or \_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ months**

Please call \_\_\_\_\_ at Rust Consulting, Inc. (800) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ if you have any questions regarding this Settlement Program or your Rental Agreement account.

Yours truly,

PLUSA Leasing

EXHIBIT  
A1

EXHIBIT A-1  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
SETTLEMENT LETTER

\_\_\_\_\_, 2006

[Insert Customer Name]

[Insert Guarantor Name]

**RE: NOTICE TO FORMER [INSERT STATE NAME] NORVERGENCE  
CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE EQUIPMENT RENTAL AGREEMENTS  
WITH POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. ("PLUSA"), AND TO ANY  
GUARANTORS**

Dear [Insert Customer Name] and/or [Insert Guarantor Name]

You are receiving this notice because the records of Popular Leasing USA, Inc. ("PLUSA") reflect that [Insert Customer Name] entered into an Equipment Rental Agreement (referred to herein as the "Rental Agreement") with NorVergence, Inc. ("NorVergence"), that the Rental Agreement is now held by PLUSA, and that [Insert Customer Name] has entered into a settlement agreement or release with PLUSA (the "Existing Settlement Agreement"). Pursuant to an agreement with the Attorney General of the State of [Insert State Name] (the "Attorney General"), PLUSA is pleased to offer you the opportunity to participate in a Settlement Program by which you may nullify the Existing Settlement Agreement and resolve the outstanding balance which was due on the Rental Agreement at a substantial discount, and settle any and all disputes which existed between you and PLUSA arising from or relating to the Rental Agreement or PLUSA's efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement.

**Here is a summary of how the Settlement Program would work if you accept it:**

- **You would agree with PLUSA that the amount which was due under the Rental Agreement had there been no Existing Settlement Agreement was the amount necessary to bring the Rental Agreement current through July 15, 2004, plus 20% of the amounts coming due under the Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004, plus applicable taxes;**
- **Any amounts you paid to PLUSA after July 15, 2004, including amounts paid under the Existing Settlement Agreement, would be applied to reduce the amount you would pay PLUSA under the Settlement Program (or refunded to you, to the extent you have already paid more than that amount); and**
- **You and PLUSA would exchange mutual releases.**

**The Settlement Program is described in more detail in the rest of this letter and the form of Settlement and Mutual Release that is enclosed. You should review those documents**

**carefully. In case of any disagreement between the summary above and the more detailed description, the more detailed description will govern.**

**The Settlement Program Offered By PLUSA Leasing Corporation**

If you elect to participate in this Settlement Program, you and PLUSA will agree that the Existing Settlement Agreement has been rescinded, nullified and is of no further force and effect. PLUSA will also: (a) forgive eighty percent (80%) of the remaining contract balance which was due under your Rental Agreement after your bringing your account current to July 15, 2004; (b) forgive any late fees, penalties or insurance charges assessed on your account after July 15, 2004; (c) forgive or refund 67% of any insurance-related charges assessed or paid on your account on or before July 15, 2004; (d) fully credit you for any payments that you have made to PLUSA which were due and paid after July 15, 2004; (e) in the event your payments made after July 15, 2004, including payments made under the Existing Settlement Agreement, exceed the Settlement Balance described below, refund to you the amount in excess of the Settlement Balance; and (f) withdraw, or cause to be corrected, in writing, any and all adverse credit information filed with any credit bureau as a result of not receiving payment on your Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004.

In exchange for the benefits provided above, you must be current on your payments under the Rental Agreement through July 15, 2004, or you must bring your payments current through July 15, 2004. You must also agree to release PLUSA from any claims concerning the Rental Agreement, or the Existing Settlement Agreement, as described more fully below. You must also agree to pay PLUSA the "Settlement Balance," which is the amount necessary to bring your Rental Agreement current through July 15, 2004 (including applicable taxes plus a credit for 67% of insurance charges assessed or paid on or before July 15, 2004), plus an amount equal to twenty percent (20%) of the outstanding balance due under your Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004 (such balance to exclude any late fees, penalties, and insurance charges assessed for the period after July 15, 2004), minus any payments made to PLUSA under your Rental Agreement which were due and paid after July 15, 2004. You may elect to pay the Settlement Balance in one of two ways. You may either make a lump sum payment of the entire Settlement Balance or pay off the Settlement Balance in up to [insert 12 or 24, as appropriate] equal monthly installment payments, with the lump sum payment due within, or the first installment payment to be due no earlier than, thirty (30) days after PLUSA's receipt of the fully executed Release. PLUSA will mail you a bill for the first installment no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the due date. After settlement, you may be responsible for potential tax liabilities including but not limited to property and usage taxes with respect to the Matrix box and other telephone equipment subject to your Rental Agreement. In regards to these taxes, you may have an affirmative obligation to report these tax liabilities to either your local tax assessor or state department of revenue depending on your state's laws.

If you have any questions about these payment options, please contact  
\_\_\_\_\_ at Rust Consulting, Inc. (800) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

You will also have the right to pay the remainder of the Settlement Balance at any time without penalty.

If your account is current through July 15, 2004 and you are entitled to a refund from PLUSA, PLUSA will send the refund to you within thirty (30) days of receipt of the signed Release.

To participate in this Settlement Program, you must complete, sign and have notarized, and return to Popular Leasing USA, Inc. c/o Rust Consulting, Inc., within 30 days from the date of your receipt of this notice, two copies of the enclosed document entitled "Settlement and Mutual Release." In the Settlement and Mutual Release, you must elect and agree to pay the Settlement Balance according to one of the two payment options described above (either lump-sum or installment). Upon your payment of the Settlement Balance, you will receive written notification from PLUSA that the Rental Agreement has been terminated.

By accepting this proposal, you (a) elect and agree to pay the Settlement Balance; and (b) fully release PLUSA from, and agree not to sue PLUSA for, any and all claims that you have or may have had against PLUSA based upon [Insert Customer Name]'s Rental Agreement, including, without limitation, any such claims you may have as a member or representative of various proposed class action lawsuits that have been brought against PLUSA on behalf of asserted classes of NorVergence customers (as well as any such proposed class action lawsuits that may be brought in the future) and any such claims arising out of any efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement. If you are currently involved in any litigation with PLUSA over [Insert Customer Name]'s Rental Agreement and you wish to participate in the Settlement Program, you and PLUSA will mutually dismiss that action with prejudice and without costs or attorneys' fees.

PLUSA, in turn, will fully release you from, and agree not to sue you for or to dismiss you from, any and all claims that it has or may have had against you based upon [Insert Customer Name]'s Rental Agreement and the Existing Settlement Agreement. Both you and PLUSA will retain all rights under law to enforce the Settlement and Mutual Release.

PLUSA has agreed to propose this Settlement Program for the purpose of avoiding the expense and inconvenience of litigation and it is not an admission on the part of PLUSA that it engaged in any form of unlawful conduct or business practices. Indeed, PLUSA expressly denies that it engaged in any such unlawful conduct or business practices and expressly denies that it is liable to any person or entity in connection with the rental of NorVergence telecommunications equipment.

**If You Decide Not To Participate In The Settlement Program:**

You are not obligated to participate in the Settlement Program agreed to by PLUSA and the Attorney General, and you may wish to consult with an attorney of your choosing before you decide whether to participate in the Settlement Program. If you elect not to participate in the program, then this Settlement Program will have no impact on any of the terms of your Existing Settlement Agreement with PLUSA, and you and PLUSA will each be free to pursue rights and remedies under the law. Even if you do not participate in the Settlement Program, PLUSA has agreed that it will not institute any legal proceedings against you in any court outside the State of [Insert State Name], unless you assert that [Insert State Name] is not the correct forum. Nothing, however, shall prevent PLUSA from asserting a cross-claim or

counterclaim in any legal proceedings, to which you are a party, commenced against PLUSA in any court outside the State of [Insert State Name]. Some of the Attorneys General have obtained default judgments against NorVergence, a company now in bankruptcy. NorVergence did not appear in or defend the cases brought against it by the suing Attorneys General. PLUSA was not named as a party in those cases. Accordingly, the applicability of such default judgments, if any, on the enforceability of the Rental Agreements assigned to, or otherwise held by, PLUSA would have to be determined by an appropriate court should you decide not to participate in the settlement program. The same would be true, with respect to PLUSA, for any additional default judgments that may be sought and obtained by any of the Attorneys General against NorVergence.

**If You Decide To Accept The Settlement Program:**

Currently, the amount necessary to bring your Rental Agreement current through July 15, 2004, is \$\_\_\_\_\_. The remaining balance on your Rental Agreement after you have brought your Rental Agreement account current through July 15, 2004, is \$\_\_\_\_\_, and if you agree to participate in the Settlement Program, PLUSA will forgive eighty percent (80%) of that balance, which results in a savings to you of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

More specifically, PLUSA has the following information about your Rental Agreement and what the Settlement Program would require you to pay:

**Unpaid Balance Due as of July 15, 2004  
(including any and all monthly payments and  
charges for late fees, applicable taxes, and  
33% of insurance-related charges assessed  
on or before July 15, 2004):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Add:**

**20% of Remaining Balance Due  
after July 15, 2004, including  
applicable sales taxes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Minus:**

**Amount Due and Paid after July  
15, 2004 (includes any payments  
for monthly rental, late fees,  
penalties, interest, applicable  
taxes, insurance charges, and  
payments on the Existing  
Settlement Agreement):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:**

**Amount you need to pay PLUSA (Settlement Balance):** \_\_\_\_\_

**or**

**Amount you will be Refunded by PLUSA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment options: Lump sum payment or \_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ months**

Please call \_\_\_\_\_ at **Rust Consulting, Inc. (800) \_\_\_ - \_\_\_** if you have any questions regarding this Settlement Program or your Rental Agreement account.

Yours truly,

PLUSA Leasing

EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT B  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
SETTLEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE

**SETTLEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE**

between

**[Customer and/or Guarantor]**  
**and**  
**POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.,**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, on behalf of the entity named above (the "Customer") and if applicable as personal guarantor (if I am a personal guarantor, the "Guarantor"), elect to take advantage of the Settlement Program agreed to by the ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF [Insert State Name] and POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. ("PLUSA"), to pay off Customer's Rental Agreement with PLUSA (the "Rental Agreement") at a substantial discount and to settle any and all disputes between (i) Customer and Guarantor and (ii) PLUSA arising from the Rental Agreement or PLUSA's efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement. With this Settlement and Mutual Release (the "Settlement Agreement") I am: (1) accepting the terms of the Settlement Program offered by PLUSA and (2) entering into a mutual release of claims with PLUSA and related parties.

I understand that PLUSA has agreed to the terms of this Settlement Program for the purpose of avoiding the expense and inconvenience of litigation and it is not an admission on the part of PLUSA that it engaged in any form of unlawful conduct or business practices, and that PLUSA expressly denies that it engaged in any such unlawful conduct or business practices and expressly denies that it is liable to any person or entity in connection with the Rental Agreement.

**I. Terms Of The Settlement Program**

I understand that, upon timely receipt of an executed copy of this Settlement and Mutual Release and the Settlement Balance, as defined below, PLUSA will, after I have brought the Rental Agreement current to July 15, 2004:

- (a) forgive eighty-five percent (85%) of the remaining contract balance due under the Rental Agreement after July 15, 2004;
- (b) forgive any late fees, penalties, or insurance charges assessed on that account on or after July 15, 2004;
- (c) forgive or refund 67% of any insurance-related charges assessed or paid on that account prior to July 15, 2004;
- (d) fully credit any payments I and/or Guarantor, if any, have made to PLUSA which were due and paid after July 15, 2004;

- (e) in the event my payments made after July 15, 2004, exceed the Settlement Balance described below, refund to me the amount in excess of the Settlement Balance; and
- (f) withdraw any and all adverse credit reports PLUSA filed, if any, as to the Customer and/or Guarantor, if any, as a result of not receiving payment on the Rental Agreement on or after July 15, 2004.

I also understand that PLUSA's records reflect the following information about Customer's Rental Agreement account:

**Unpaid Balance Due as of July 15, 2004  
(including any and all monthly payments and charges for late fees, applicable taxes, and 33% of insurance-related charges assessed paid on or before July 15, 2004):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Add:  
15% of Remaining Balance Due after July 15, 2004, including applicable sales taxes:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Minus:  
Amount Due and Paid after July 15, 2004 (includes any payments for monthly rental, late fees, penalties, interest, applicable taxes, insurance charges):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total:  
Amount I need to Pay PLUSA (Settlement Balance):**  
or  
**Amount I will have Refunded to me by PLUSA:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Customer and/or Guarantor, if any, agree to pay the Settlement Balance by the method checked below and request that PLUSA invoice Customer and/or Guarantor accordingly:

\_\_\_\_\_  I will Pay the Settlement Balance in a lump sum within thirty (30) days of my mailing of this fully executed Release

\_\_\_\_\_  I will Pay the Settlement Balance in [insert 12 or 24, as appropriate] equal monthly installments of [payment amount], beginning on the date specified in the first PLUSA invoice, which payment date shall be at least 15 days after the date of mailing of such invoice. I understand that Customer and/or Guarantor may pay the remainder of the Settlement Balance at any time without penalty.

Checks are to be made payable to Popular Leasing USA, Inc., and sent to **Rust Consulting, Inc. [address] Attn: \_\_\_\_\_**. Please include the account number on the check.

I understand that if Customer and Guarantor fail to pay the Settlement Balance as promised, PLUSA may seek to enforce the Settlement and Mutual Release in full and make use of any of the remedies available to it under the law. I understand that PLUSA will not institute any legal proceedings against Customer and/or Guarantor in any Court outside the State of [Insert State Name] unless I object to the jurisdiction of the courts of [Insert State Name]. I understand, however, that if Customer and/or Guarantor are parties to any legal proceeding against PLUSA in any court outside the State of [Insert State Name], PLUSA may assert a cross-claim or counterclaim in any such proceeding.

I understand that if I am a customer who is entitled to a refund from PLUSA under the Settlement Program, I will be able to obtain that refund by executing this Settlement and Mutual Release. Within thirty (30) days of PLUSA's receipt of this Settlement and Mutual Release, PLUSA will send me my refund check.

## **2. Release Of Claims**

I understand that, in exchange for the opportunity to pay off the Rental Agreement at a substantial discount, Customer and Guarantor, if any, each hereby releases and discharges PLUSA, and all of its subsidiaries, parents, affiliates, predecessors, successors and assigns, officers, directors, employees, shareholders and agents (the "PLUSA Parties") from, and covenants not to file or pursue any lawsuit or claim in any place against the PLUSA Parties for, any and all claims (including claims as a member or representative of a proposed class action, whether pending now or filed later) that Customer and/or Guarantor has or may have had against any or all of them for any and all damages, restitution, equitable relief, attorneys' fees and/or penalties related to the Rental Agreement, including but not limited to claims arising out of efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement. PLUSA, Customer and Guarantor, if any, each further agrees that if any of them is currently involved in any litigation arising from the Rental Agreement or any effort to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement, Customer, Guarantor and PLUSA will mutually dismiss that litigation with prejudice.

In exchange for Customer and/or Guarantor's payment to PLUSA pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, PLUSA hereby releases and discharges Customer and Guarantor from, and covenants not to file or pursue any lawsuit or claim in any place against either Customer or Guarantor for, any and all claims that PLUSA has or may have had against either Customer or Guarantor and all of their subsidiaries, parents, affiliates, predecessors, successors, assigns, officers, directors, employees, shareholders, agents, and guarantors for any and all damages, equitable relief, attorneys' fees and penalties related to the Rental Agreement. PLUSA also transfers all of its right, title and interest to the equipment subject to the Rental Agreement, if any, to the Customer.

I hereby acknowledge and represent that I have read this Settlement Agreement; that I have had the opportunity to consult with a lawyer concerning it; that each of Customer and Guarantor is voluntarily entering into this Settlement Agreement; that neither PLUSA nor its

agents or attorneys have made any representations or promises concerning the terms or effects of this Settlement Agreement other than those set forth in this document; and I understand that this is a full and final release of all claims Customer and Guarantor have or may have against the PLUSA Parties concerning the Rental Agreement or PLUSA's efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement.

I further agree that this Settlement Agreement constitutes the entire agreement among the parties hereto, may not be changed orally and may not be modified or amended except pursuant to an agreement in writing signed by all of the parties hereto, unless Customer and Guarantor change their mind as provided above.

The signatory for the Customer below represents that he or she is duly authorized to enter into this Settlement Agreement and on behalf of the Customer.

This Settlement Agreement shall be deemed accepted upon your return to PLUSA of an executed copy of this Settlement Agreement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, and intending to be legally bound hereby, the undersigned has caused this Settlement Agreement to be executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

[NAME OF CUSTOMER]

By: \_\_\_\_\_

[Name]

[Title]

[Address]

By: \_\_\_\_\_ [Name], as Guarantor

[Add appropriate notary clauses for State]

**Popular Leasing USA, Inc.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

[Name]

**FILL OUT COMPLETELY AND SEND TWO SIGNED ORIGINALS TO PLUSA care of: Rust Consulting [address], Attn: \_\_\_\_\_.**

**PLEASE KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS. A FULLY EXECUTED DOCUMENT WILL BE SENT TO CUSTOMER AND ANY GUARANTOR UPON COMPLETION OF THE TERMS OUTLINED HEREIN**

EXHIBIT

B1

EXHIBIT B-1  
POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.  
SETTLEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE

**SETTLEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE**

between

**[Customer and/or Guarantor]**  
**and**  
**POPULAR LEASING USA, INC.,**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, on behalf of the entity named above (the "Customer") and if applicable as personal guarantor (if I am a personal guarantor, the "Guarantor"), elect to take advantage of the Settlement Program agreed to by the ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF [Insert State Name] and POPULAR LEASING USA, INC. ("PLUSA") to pay off Customer's Rental Agreement with PLUSA (the "Rental Agreement") at a substantial discount and to settle any and all disputes between (i) Customer and Guarantor and (ii) PLUSA arising from the Rental Agreement or PLUSA's efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement and that certain [Insert title and date of existing settlement agreement] between Customer[, Guarantor] and PLUSA (the "Existing Settlement Agreement"). With this Settlement and Mutual Release (the "Settlement Agreement") I am: (1) accepting the terms of the Settlement Program offered by PLUSA and (2) entering into a mutual release of claims with PLUSA and related parties.

I understand that PLUSA has agreed to the terms of this Settlement Program for the purpose of avoiding the expense and inconvenience of litigation and it is not an admission on the part of PLUSA that it engaged in any form of unlawful conduct or business practices, and that PLUSA expressly denies that it engaged in any such unlawful conduct or business practices and expressly denies that it is liable to any person or entity in connection with the Rental Agreement.

**1. Terms Of The Settlement Program**

I understand that, upon timely receipt of an executed copy of this Settlement and Mutual Release and the Settlement Balance, as defined below, PLUSA and I agree that the Existing Settlement Agreement is rescinded, nullified and no longer of force and effect, and that PLUSA will:

- (a) forgive eighty percent (80%) of the remaining contract balance which was due under the Rental Agreement assuming that I have brought my balance current to July 15, 2004, and that there had there been no Existing Settlement Agreement;
- (b) forgive any late fees, penalties, or insurance charges assessed on that account on or after July 15, 2004;
- (c) forgive or refund 67% of any insurance-related charges assessed or paid on that account prior to July 15, 2004;

- (d) fully credit any payments I and/or the Guarantor, if any, have made to PLUSA which were due and paid after July 15, 2004, including payments under the Existing Settlement Agreement;
- (e) in the event my payments made after July 15, 2004, including payments made under the Existing Settlement Agreement, exceed the Settlement Balance described below, refund to me the amount in excess of the Settlement Balance; and
- (f) withdraw any and all adverse credit reports PLUSA filed, if any, as to the Customer and/or Guarantor as a result of not receiving payment on the Rental Agreement on or after July 15, 2004.

I also understand that PLUSA's records reflect the following information about Customer's Rental Agreement account:

**Unpaid Balance Due as of July 15, 2004  
(including any and all monthly payments and charges for late fees, applicable taxes, and 33% of insurance-related charges assessed on or before July 15, 2004):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Add:  
20% of Remaining Balance Due after July 15, 2004, including applicable sales taxes:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Minus:  
Amount Due and Paid after July 15, 2004 (includes payments for monthly rental, late fees, penalties, interest, applicable taxes, insurance charges, and payments on the Existing Settlement Agreement):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total:  
Amount I need to pay PLUSA (Settlement Balance):**

\_\_\_\_\_

or

**Amount I will have Refunded to me by PLUSA:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Customer and/or Guarantor, if any, agree to pay the Settlement Balance by the method checked below and request that PLUSA invoice Customer and/or Guarantor accordingly:

\_\_\_\_\_  I will Pay the Settlement Balance in a lump sum within thirty (30) days of your mailing of this fully executed Release

\_\_\_\_\_  I will Pay the Settlement Balance in [insert 12 or 24, as appropriate] equal monthly installments of [payment amount], beginning on the date specified in the first PLUSA invoice, which payment date shall be at least

15 days after the date of mailing of such invoice. I understand that Customer and/or Guarantor may pay the remainder of the Settlement Balance at any time without penalty.

Checks are to be made payable to Popular Leasing USA, Inc., and sent to **Rust Consulting, Inc. [address] Attn: \_\_\_\_\_**. Please include the account number on the check.

I understand that if Customer and Guarantor fail to pay the Settlement Balance as promised, PLUSA may seek to enforce the Settlement and Mutual Release in full and make use of any of the remedies available to it under the law. I understand that PLUSA will not institute any legal proceedings against Customer and/or Guarantor in any Court outside the State of [Insert State Name] unless I object to the jurisdiction of the courts of [Insert State Name]. I understand, however, that if Customer and/or Guarantor are parties to any legal proceeding against PLUSA in any court outside the State of [Insert State Name], PLUSA may assert a cross-claim or counterclaim in any such proceeding.

I understand that if I am a Customer who is entitled to a refund from PLUSA under the Settlement Program, I will be able to obtain that refund by executing this Settlement and Mutual Release. Within thirty (30) days of PLUSA's receipt of this Settlement and Mutual Release, PLUSA will send me my refund check.

## **2. Release Of Claims**

I understand that, in exchange for the opportunity to pay off the Rental Agreement at a substantial discount, Customer and Guarantor, if any, each hereby releases and discharges PLUSA, and all of its subsidiaries, parents, affiliates, predecessors, successors and assigns, officers, directors, employees, shareholders and agents (the "PLUSA Parties") from, and covenants not to file or pursue any lawsuit or claim in any place against the PLUSA Parties for, any and all claims (including claims as a member or representative of a proposed class action, whether pending now or filed later) that Customer and/or Guarantor has or may have had against any or all of them for any and all damages, restitution, equitable relief, attorneys' fees and/or penalties related to the Rental Agreement or the Existing Settlement Agreement, including but not limited to claims arising out of efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement or the Existing Settlement Agreement. PLUSA, Customer and Guarantor each further agrees that if any of them is currently involved in any litigation arising from the Rental Agreement or any effort to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement, Customer, Guarantor and PLUSA will mutually dismiss that litigation with prejudice.

In exchange for Customer and/or Guarantor's payment to PLUSA pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, PLUSA hereby releases and discharges Customer and Guarantor from, and covenants not to file or pursue any lawsuit or claim in any place against either Customer or Guarantor for, any and all claims that PLUSA has or may have had against either Customer or Guarantor and all of their subsidiaries, parents, affiliates, predecessors, successors, assigns, officers, directors, employees, shareholders, agents, and guarantors for any and all damages, equitable relief, attorneys' fees and penalties related to the Rental Agreement or the Existing

Settlement Agreement. PLUSA also transfers all of its right, title and interest to the equipment subject to the Rental Agreement, if any, to the Customer.

I hereby acknowledge and represent that I have read this Settlement Agreement; that I have had the opportunity to consult with a lawyer concerning it; that each of Customer and Guarantor is voluntarily entering into this Settlement Agreement; that neither PLUSA nor its agents or attorneys have made any representations or promises concerning the terms or effects of this Settlement Agreement other than those set forth in this document; and I understand that this is a full and final release of all claims Customer and Guarantor have or may have against the PLUSA Parties concerning the Rental Agreement, the Existing Settlement Agreement or PLUSA's efforts to collect under or enforce the Rental Agreement or the Existing Settlement Agreement.

I further agree that this Settlement Agreement constitutes the entire agreement among the parties hereto, may not be changed orally and may not be modified or amended except pursuant to an agreement in writing signed by all of the parties hereto, unless Customer and Guarantor change their mind as provided above.

The signatory for the Customer below represents that he or she is duly authorized to enter into this Settlement Agreement and on behalf of the Customer.

This Settlement Agreement shall be deemed accepted upon your return to PLUSA of an executed copy of this Settlement Agreement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, and intending to be legally bound hereby, the undersigned has caused this Settlement Agreement to be executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

[NAME OF CUSTOMER]

By: \_\_\_\_\_

[Name]

[Title]

[Address]

By: \_\_\_\_\_ [Name], as  
Guarantor

[Add appropriate notary clauses for State]

**Popular Leasing USA, Inc.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

[Name]

**FILL OUT COMPLETELY AND SEND TWO SIGNED ORIGINALS TO PLUSA care of:  
Rust Consulting [address], Attn: \_\_\_\_\_.**

**PLEASE KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS. A FULLY EXECUTED DOCUMENT  
WILL BE SENT TO CUSTOMER AND ANY GUARANTOR UPON COMPLETION OF  
THE TERMS OUTLINED HEREIN**