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FAIRPOINT PROMOTES VETERAN SALES LEADER TO VP POSITION

Leary to lead Enterprise and Business Markets Sales Teams

MANCHESTER, NH (October 16, 2015) – FairPoint Communications, Inc. (Nasdaq: FRP), a leading provider of advanced communications services, has strengthened its sales team by promoting Lisa M. Leary to the role of the Vice President of Business Sales, covering Enterprise and Business Markets. Leary brings to FairPoint more than 20 years of telecommunications sales experience. She will lead FairPoint’s direct salesforce that provides advanced business services to companies throughout northern New England.

“In today’s networked world, voice and data services aren’t just business operations; they’re the backbone of your business,” said Tony Tomae, FairPoint Communications Executive Vice President and Chief Revenue Officer. “Lisa understands the challenge businesses face and is a capable leader to guide our Business Sales teams in promoting FairPoint’s suite of Advanced Services, including Ethernet, Voice over IP, Data Center Colocation, as well as Managed, IT and Construction Services.”

Lisa developed her proven track record of significant sales and revenue growth in the Cloud Services, Security, Call Center and Collaboration, Unified Communications, Data Center applications, and Network arena at Avaya, Siemens and EarthLink. Prior to joining FairPoint as Assistant Vice President of Business Markets in August 2014, she served as Vice President of Sales at CafeX, a Boston-based startup where she delivered Web and Mobile enabled software applications and products through Cisco Teams and Channel Partners.

“I am excited each day to work for FairPoint because we have the largest and most robust network in the region,” said Leary. “The strength of our network enables my team and me to offer our customers unmatched connectivity and to power a growing array of enhanced applications and services.”

“Our latest IP-based cloud services like Hosted PBX leverage our data network to allow small, medium and enterprise businesses to either eliminate or significantly reduce hardware and software costs, while improving flexibility and control over their voice and data system,” continued Leary.

Leary is a graduate of Plymouth State University and the MIT Sloan School of Management’s Executive Education. Leary is based in FairPoint’s Manchester, N.H., office.

About FairPoint Communications, Inc.

FairPoint Communications, Inc. (Nasdaq: FRP) provides advanced data, voice and video technologies to single and multi-site businesses, public and private institutions, consumers, wireless companies and wholesale re-sellers in 17 states. Leveraging an owned, fiber-core

Ethernet network — with more than 20,000 route miles of fiber, including approximately 17,000 route miles of fiber in northern New England — FairPoint has the network coverage, scalable bandwidth and transport capacity to support enhanced applications, including the next generation of mobile and cloud-based communications, such as small cell wireless backhaul technology, voice over IP, data center colocation services, managed services and disaster recovery. For more information, visit www.FairPoint.com.