



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Investor Contact:** Brett Ellis  
(866) 377-3747  
[bellis@fairpoint.com](mailto:bellis@fairpoint.com)

**Media Contact:** Rose Cummings  
(704) 602-7304  
[rcummings@fairpoint.com](mailto:rcummings@fairpoint.com)

### **FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS REAFFIRMS EUGENE B. JOHNSON'S STANDING AS CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (November 6, 2008)** – FairPoint Communications, Inc. (NYSE: FRP) today reports that its Board of Directors has reaffirmed Eugene B. Johnson's standing as its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, per his employment agreement, which was extended in April 2008, and is set to expire on December 31, 2009.

In anticipation of Mr. Johnson's employment agreement expiring at the end of 2009 and Mr. Johnson's expressed desire to retire next year, FairPoint's Board of Directors is taking the necessary steps for succession planning, including forming a search committee and engaging an outside executive search firm. Mr. Johnson has indicated his desire to retire after the company successfully completes the systems transition of its newly acquired northern New England business and once a successor is in place.

No deadline has been set for finding Mr. Johnson's successor.

Johnson has been CEO of FairPoint Communications since January 2002 and previously served as chief development officer. Johnson is the co-founder of FairPoint Communications and also serves as chairman of the Board of Directors.

#### **About FairPoint**

FairPoint Communications, Inc. is an industry leading provider of communications services to communities across the country. Today, FairPoint owns and operates local exchange companies in 18 states offering advanced communications with a personal touch, including local and long distance voice, data, Internet, television and broadband services. FairPoint is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol FRP. Learn more at [www.fairpoint.com](http://www.fairpoint.com).

This press release may contain forward-looking statements by FairPoint that are not based on historical fact, including, without limitation, statements containing the words "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates" and similar expressions and statements. Because these forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, there are important factors that could cause actual results, events or developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Such factors include those risks described from time to time in FairPoint's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), including, without limitation, the risks described in FairPoint's most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q on file with the SEC. These factors should be

considered carefully and readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. All information is current as of the date this press release is issued, and FairPoint undertakes no duty to update this information.

Source: *FairPoint Communications, Inc.*, [www.fairpoint.com](http://www.fairpoint.com).

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