

FOR RELEASE

Jan. 3, 2008

Contacts:

NCMEC

Communications Department

(703) 837-6111

media@ncmec.org

Qwest Communications

Leigh Picchetti

(303) 965-1414

leigh.picchetti@qwest.com

**QWEST COMMUNICATIONS EXECUTIVE PAULA KRUGER JOINS BOARD OF
NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN**

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) announced today that Qwest Communications has been elected to a one-year term on the organization’s board of directors. Qwest has appointed executive [Paula Kruger](#) as its representative on the board.

Kruger and Qwest have been long time supporters of NCMEC and have worked to develop and implement online safety education initiatives in communities around the United States. Together, Qwest and NCMEC created extensive resources to promote safe surfing habits at IncredibleInternet.com. And, last year, the Qwest Foundation and NCMEC launched NetSmartz411.org. This Web site provides customized online safety resources for parents, children, teens, educators and law enforcement to help protect children in cyberspace.

“Qwest has demonstrated outstanding corporate leadership and is playing a significant role in helping to keep children safe,” said NCMEC President and CEO Ernie Allen. “We are delighted to welcome Paula to the board of NCMEC and value Qwest’s long-standing commitment to helping protect families.”

Kruger joined Qwest Communications as executive vice president in September 2003. She is responsible for the company’s residential and small business markets, including voice, long-distance, wireless, video and data businesses. Kruger’s 7,000-person team oversees all consumer and small business sales and customer care operations, collections and operator information services.

About the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

NCMEC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping protect children from abduction and sexual exploitation. NCMEC’s congressionally mandated CyberTipline, a reporting mechanism for child sexual exploitation, has handled more than 519,300 leads. Since its establishment in 1984, NCMEC has assisted law enforcement with more than 135,800 missing child cases, resulting in the recovery of more than 118,700 children. For more information about NCMEC, call its toll-free, 24-hour hotline at 1-800-THE-LOST or visit www.missingkids.com.