

# Area Code Overlay Approved for the Pennsylvania 215/267 Area Code

To ensure a continuing supply of new telephone numbers in Philadelphia the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has ordered an Area Code Overlay for Philadelphia. The new **445** area code will be “overlaid” or superimposed over the area now served by the **215,267** area codes.

## *What is an Area Code Overlay?*

An overlay is the addition of another area code (445) to the same geographic region as an existing area codes (215/267). **An overlay does not require customers to change their existing area code.**

## *Who will be affected?*

Beginning **February 3, 2018**, Philadelphia customers requesting new service, an additional line, or in some cases, moving their service, may be assigned a number in the new **445** area code. The **445** area code will co-exist everywhere in Manhattan with the **215, 267** area codes.

## *What will you need to do?*

You should continue to identify your telephone number as a 10-digit number (Area Code + 7-digit telephone number), and include the area code when giving the number to friends, family, business associates, customers, etc.

You should ensure that all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment recognize the new **445** area code as a valid area code, and continue to program telephone numbers with 1+10 digit telephone numbers. Some examples are: stored telephone numbers in contact lists in wireless phones, PBXs, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, speed dialers, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, medical alert devices, safety alarm security systems and gates, ankle monitors and or other similar equipment. Be sure to check your website, business stationery, advertising materials, personal and business printed checks, contact information, and your personal or pet ID tags to ensure the area code is included.

## *What will remain the same?*

- Your telephone number, including current area code, will not change.
- The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- What is a local call now will remain a local call regardless of the number of digits dialed.
- You will still have to dial **1+area code + telephone number** (11-digit dialing) to place long-distance calls within the **215/267/445** Area Code.
- You can still dial just three digits to reach 911.
- If 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 or 811 are currently available in your community, you will still dial these codes with just three digits.

## *Who may you contact with questions?*

If you have any questions regarding information provided in this notice, please call MetTel at 1.800.876.9823. You can also visit the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's website at <http://www.puc.state.pa.us/> for further information.

