# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS MARSHALL DIVISION

K.MIZRA LLC,	)
Plaintiff,	) ) ) Case No. 2:21-cv-00242
V.	) ) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
T-MOBILE US, INC., T-MOBILE USA, INC., and SPRINT CORP.,	) )
Defendants.	)
	) ) )

# **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff K.Mizra LLC ("K.Mizra") files this Complaint against Defendants T-Mobile US, Inc., T-Mobile USA, Inc., and Sprint Corp. (collectively, "T-Mobile").

# NATURE OF THE CASE

1. This is an action for the infringement of United States Patent No. 8,958,819 (the "819 Patent" or "the Patent-in-Suit").

2. T-Mobile has been infringing the `819 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271 by using mobile location servers in its cellular telecommunications networks.

3. Plaintiff K.Mizra seeks appropriate damages and prejudgment and post-judgment interest for T-Mobile's infringement of the Patent-in-Suit.

## THE PARTIES

4. Plaintiff K.Mizra is a Delaware limited liability corporation with its principal place of business at 77 Brickell Avenue, #500-96031, Miami, FL 33131. K.Mizra is the assignee and owner of the Patent-in-Suit.

#### Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 2 of 14 PageID #: 2

5. Defendant T-Mobile US, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 12920 SE 38th Street, Bellevue, WA 98006.

6. Defendant T-Mobile USA, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 12920 SE 38th Street, Bellevue, WA 98006. On information and belief, T-Mobile USA, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of T-Mobile US, Inc.

7. Defendant Sprint Corp. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 6200 Sprint Parkway, Overland Park, KS 66251. On information and belief, Sprint Corp. is a wholly owned subsidiary of T-Mobile US, Inc.

8. On information and belief, T-Mobile's operations in the Eastern District of Texas are substantial and varied.

9. T-Mobile operates one or more wireless telecommunications networks to provide wireless telecommunications services, including within the Eastern District of Texas, under brand names including "T-Mobile."

10. T-Mobile advertises that its 4G LTE and 5G Nationwide networks are available within the Eastern District of Texas. *See Coverage Check*, T-MOBILE, <u>https://www.t-mobile.com/coverage/coverage-map</u> (last visited May 12, 2021).

11. T-Mobile maintains multiple facilities in the Eastern District of Texas, including at least T-Mobile retail stores located at 900 E. East Blvd N #100B, Marshall, TX 75670; and 1806 E. End Blvd. Ste. 100, Marshall, TX 75670. *See T-Mobile Store Locator*, T-MOBILE, <u>http://t-mobile.com/store-locator</u> (last visited Mar. 31, 2021).

12. On information and belief, T-Mobile USA, Inc. also maintains and operates research and development facilities at 7668 Warren Parkway, Frisco, TX 75034.

13. In other recent actions, T-Mobile has either admitted or not contested that this

federal judicial district is a proper venue for patent infringement actions against it. *See, e.g.,* Answer to First Amended Complaint, at 2-3, ¶¶ 7-10, *Fractus, S.A. v. AT&T Mobility LLC et al.,* No. 2:18-cv-00135-JRG (E.D. Tex. Dec. 13, 2018); Answer at 2, ¶¶ 4, 5, *Preferential Networks IP, LLC v. T-Mobile US, Inc. et al.,* No. 2:17-cv-00626 (E.D. Tex. Nov. 01, 2017), ECF No. 17; Answer ¶¶ 4, 5, *Traxcell Techs., LLC v. T-Mobile, USA, Inc.,* No. 2:17-cv-00720 (E.D. Tex. Jan. 23, 2018), ECF No. 8; Answer ¶¶ 5, 6, *Kevique Tech., LLC v. T-Mobile USA, Inc.,* No. 2:17-cv-00095 (E.D. Tex. Apr. 11, 2017), ECF No. 10. Defendant T-Mobile USA, Inc. has also admitted or failed to contest that it has transacted business in this district. *See Preferential Networks* at Answer at 2, ¶ 4; *Traxcell Techs., LLC v. T-Mobile US, Inc. et al.,* No. 6:16-cv-01223 (E.D. Tex. Feb. 13, 2017), ECF No. 47.

14. By registering to conduct business in Texas and by maintaining facilities in at least the cities of Marshall and Frisco, T-Mobile has multiple regular and established places of business within the Eastern District of Texas.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

15. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the Patent Laws of the United States, Title 35 of the United States Code.

16. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

17. This Court has personal jurisdiction over T-Mobile because, *inter alia*, T-Mobile has a continuous presence in, and systematic contact with, this District and has registered to conduct business in the state of Texas.

18. T-Mobile has committed and continues to commit acts of infringement of

#### Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 4 of 14 PageID #: 4

K.Mizra's Patent-in-Suit in violation of the United States Patent Laws, and has used infringing products within this District. T-Mobile's infringement has caused substantial injury to K.Mizra, including within this District.

19. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1400 and 1391 because T-Mobile has committed acts of infringement in this District and maintains regular and established places of business in this District.

#### THE `819 PATENT-IN-SUIT

20. The `819 Patent is titled "Femto-Assisted Location Estimation in Macro-Femto Heterogeneous Networks" and was issued by the United States Patent Office to inventors Ke-Ting Lee, Po-Hsuan Tseng, Chien-Hua Chen, and Kai-Ten Feng.

21. The `819 Patent issued on February 17, 2015. The earliest application related to the `819 Patent was filed on December 11, 2012. A true and correct copy of the `819 Patent is attached as Exhibit A.

22. K.Mizra is the owner of all right, title and interest in and to the `819 Patent with the full and exclusive right to bring suit to enforce the `819 Patent.

23. The `819 Patent is valid and enforceable under the United States Patent Laws.

24. The `819 Patent's invention offers technological solutions that address specific challenges grounded in mobile device location technology. The `819 Patent is directed to methods for locating mobile devices in heterogenous cellular telecommunications networks such as a Long Term Evolution (LTE) network comprising macro base stations and femto base stations. The location of a mobile phone device is of great importance to enabling various location-based services such as navigation and Enhanced 911 (E911) for emergency services. *See* `819 Patent at 1:20-55. Thus, mobile devices are regularly equipped with global positioning system (GPS)

#### Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 5 of 14 PageID #: 5

receivers to assist in the locating the device. *Id.* In outdoor and line-of-sight (LOS) environments, GPS systems can determine the position of the mobile device with relatively accurate precision. *Id.* However, GPS systems are unable to locate the position of mobile devices with such accuracy in non-line-of sight (NLOS) environments such as inside buildings or environments with heavy obstruction by tall structures surrounding the devices. *Id.* 

25. With the advent of Long Term Evolution Advanced (LTE-A) cellular telecommunications systems to meet the growing demand of high data rates and internet usage on mobile devices, those systems also faced similar challenges with indoor environments and areas with heavy obstructions. *Id.* To mitigate wireless connectivity issues in such environments, LTE-A networks with macro base stations were augmented with femto base stations to provide increased network coverage for mobile devices. *Id.* These heterogenous networks that comprised both macro base stations and femto base stations achieved far better network coverage indoors than networks with only macro base stations.

26. The inventors of the '819 Patent believed that heterogenous networks could be leveraged to overcome the limitations of GPS systems for mobile devices in indoor or obstructed environments. *Id.* For example, the patent explained that the "development of mBS/fBS HetNet architectures can benefit many applications, such as LBS in indoor environments." *Id.* By incorporating both macro base stations and femto base stations in calculating the position of a mobile device, the '819 Patent achieves improved accuracy of the mobile device location compared to mobile positioning technology such as 2G/3G homogenous cellular networks. *Id.* at 5:3-15.

27. In homogenous networks, macro base stations may be able to determine the position of the mobile device with a fair amount of accuracy, but those also suffer from similar limitations

#### Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 6 of 14 PageID #: 6

as with GPS systems in indoor or obstructed environments due to poor network coverage. *Id.* at 5:15-33. The `819 Patent overcomes those limitations with assistance from femto base stations, which "can offer more precise range information compared to mBS [macro base stations] because they can suffer from less attenuation of transmitted signals where there is less interfering materials between the fBS [femto base stations] and the UE [mobile devices] as compared to between a [macro base station] and the [mobile device]." *Id.* 

28. The inventors of the `819 Patent further enhanced the precision of locating mobile devices in a heterogenous network by applying particle filtering techniques with the information relating to the mobile device, the macro base stations, and femto base stations. *See, e.g., id.* at 5:34-67, 6:46-62, 12:51-13:25, 19:18-21:3. By implementing the particle filter, the `819 Patent overcomes further uncertainties related to, for example, the statistical distribution of the mobile device's position data as well as femto base station position data, thereby improving the accuracy for locating the mobile device. *Id.* 

29. Thus, the inventions of the `819 Patent solve technological problems with nonabstract, technological solutions that improve the performance of mobile device location systems in cellular telecommunication networks. The claims of the `819 Patent recite methods that are not merely the routine or conventional use of generic computers, nor can they be performed by a human. Rather, the claims of the `819 Patent are directed to particularized implementations of cellular telecommunication network equipment and operating software.

# <u>CAUSE OF ACTION</u> (PATENT INFRINGEMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 271 OF THE `819 PATENT)

30. K.Mizra re-alleges and incorporates by reference all of the foregoing paragraphs.

31. On information and belief, T-Mobile owns, deploys, operates, maintains, tests, and uses the T-Mobile LTE and 5G Networks which include location servers that perform mobile

#### Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 7 of 14 PageID #: 7

location service and positioning functionality as a part of its wireless communication services. T-Mobile's mobile location services infrastructure is instrumental in pinpointing a mobile user's location for the provision of a myriad of location-based services ("LBS") such as E911, locationbased mobile applications, proximity-based marketing, roadside assistance, and the like. Both providers of these services and T-Mobile's mobile customers critically rely on T-Mobile's infrastructure for accurately locating mobile phones.

32. T-Mobile's mobile location services infrastructure incorporates and/or utilizes location server equipment and operating software such as T-Mobile's Enhanced Serving Mobile Location Center ("E-SMLC"), Serving Mobile Location Centers ("SMLC"), Secure User Plane Location Platform ("SLP"), and Location Management Function ("LMF"). These mobile location servers communicate with reachable base stations in the T-Mobile network, each of which are typically referred to as an eNodeB or eNB in T-Mobile's 4G LTE network or ng-eNB or gNB in T-Mobile's 5G network. Moreover, such 4G and 5G base stations and femto base stations perform eNB or gNB functionality according to the 3GPP Standards.

33. On information and belief, T-Mobile has infringed and continues to infringe, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, one or more claims, including at least claim 30 of the '819 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. §§ 271 et seq. by determining location information of mobile devices on its cellular network through the utilization of its location server equipment and software that operate in accordance with its mobile positioning algorithms including certain aspects of cellular industry standards promulgated by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) and Open Mobile Alliance (OMA). Those standards include, for example, 3GPP TS 23.271 Release 16 ("TS 23.271"); UserPlane Location Protocol, Approved Version 2.0.4, Open Mobile Alliance ("OMA SUPL Specification"); 3GPP TS 38.305 Release 15 ("TS 38.305"); 3GPP TS 36.305

## Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 8 of 14 PageID #: 8

Release 16 ("TS 36.305"); 3GPP TS 36.455 Release 16 ("TS 36.455"); 3GPP TS 37.355 Release

16 ("TS 37.355"); and 3GPP TS 23.071 Release 16 ("TS 23.071").

34. For example, claim 30 of the `819 Patent recites the following:

A method comprising:

[A] receiving femto base station timing information related to a user equipment;

[B] receiving macro base station timing information related to the user equipment;

[C] receiving particle information for a first set of particles corresponding to possible user equipment locations;

[D] receiving femto base station position information; and

[E] determining user equipment location information based on a first particle filtering for particle filtering the first set of particles based on the base station information.

35. On information and belief, and based on publicly available information, T-Mobile's

location servers and related services satisfy each and every limitation of at least claim 30 of the `819 Patent by utilizing its E-SMLCs, SMLCs, SLPs, and/or LMF for the provision of its mobile location services. For example, T-Mobile is and has been an active member of the Open Mobile Alliance (OMA) for more than a decade and uses equipment that implements a number of OMA standards including OMA SUPL Specification. the See http://omaspecworks.org/membership/current-members/ (last visited May 12, 2021). T-Mobile implements the OMA SUPL Specification in the provision of location services such as the T-Mobile FamilyWhere service. See https://www.t-mobile.com/support/plans-features/t-mobilefamilywhere-app (last visited May 12, 2021). T-Mobile discloses that "With T-Mobile FamilyWhere® a T-Mobile primary account holder can use the FamilyWhere Android app or the My T-Mobile website to locate any phone on their plan that is on the T-Mobile network." Id.

#### Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 9 of 14 PageID #: 9

36. According to the 3GPP Standard, the E-SMLC is responsible for calculating the final location and velocity estimate of the mobile device attached to the E-UTRAN (Evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network). *See, e.g.*, TS 23.271 § 6.3.14. Similarly, the 3GPP Standard describes the LMF as the network element responsible for different location services for mobile devices, including positioning of the devices. *See, e.g.*, TS 38.305 § 5.1.

37. T-Mobile's mobile location services meet all the requirements of limitation A of claim 30. Limitation A requires the step of "receiving femto base station timing information related to a user equipment." On information and belief, T-Mobile's location servers determine location information of mobile devices by relying in part on femto base station timing information related to mobile devices in communication with femtocells in the T-Mobile network. For example, T-Mobile provides FemtoCell service to its subscribers. See, e.g., https://www.tmobile.com/support/coverage/4g-lte-cellspot (last visited May 12, 2021); https://www.tmobile.com/support/coverage/wi-fi-cellspot-router-setup-andamp-help (May 12, 2021). FemtoCells provided by T-Mobile to its subscribers include the Nokia SS2FII and the Alcatel Lucent 9961. See https://community.t-mobile.com/other-devices-11/cellspot-v2-update-email-2021) how-14127 (last visited May 12, and https://www.reddit.com/r/tmobile/comments/7wmhxf/question about the tmobile 4g lte cellsp ot v1/ (last visited May 12, 2021). By way of further non-limiting example, T-Mobile's E-SMLCs communicate with reachable base stations, which include femto base stations to obtain base station timing information related to a mobile device. See, e.g., TS 36.305 § 5.2; see also, e.g., TS 36.455 §§ 7, 9. Therefore, T-Mobile's mobile location services meet limitation A of claim 30.

38. T-Mobile's mobile location services also meet all the requirements of limitation B of claim 30. Limitation B requires the step of "receiving macro base station timing information

# Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 10 of 14 PageID #: 10

related to the user equipment." As discussed above, T-Mobile's E-SMLCs communicate with reachable base stations, which also include macro base stations to obtain base station timing information related to a mobile device. *See, e.g.*, TS 36.305 § 5.2; *see also, e.g.*, TS 36.455 §§ 7, 9. As such, T-Mobile's mobile location services meet limitation B of claim 30.

39. T-Mobile's mobile location services also meet all the requirements of limitation C of claim 30. Limitation C requires the step of "receiving particle information for a first set of particles corresponding to possible user equipment locations." On information and belief, T-Mobile's location server receives particle information for a set of particles corresponding to possible locations of a mobile device. By way of non-limiting example, T-Mobile's location servers such as its E-SMLCs receive possible locations corresponding to a mobile device as reported by the mobile device to the location server in the *ProvideLocationInformation* message body shown below. *See, e.g.*, TS 37.355 § 6. Therefore, T-Mobile's mobile locations services meet limitation C of claim 30.

```
ASN1START
ProvideLocationInformation ::= SEQUENCE {
    criticalExtensions
                            CHOICE {
        c1
                                CHOICE {
            provideLocationInformation-r9
                                            ProvideLocationInformation-r9-IEs,
            spare3 NULL, spare2 NULL, spare1 NULL
        }.
        criticalExtensionsFuture
                                    SEOUENCE { }
    }
}
ProvideLocationInformation-r9-IEs ::= SEQUENCE {
    commonIEsProvideLocationInformation
                                        CommonIEsProvideLocationInformation OPTIONAL,
    a-gnss-ProvideLocationInformation
                                        A-GNSS-ProvideLocationInformation
                                                                             OPTIONAL.
   otdoa-ProvideLocationInformation
                                        OTDOA-ProvideLocationInformation
                                                                             OPTIONAL.
    ecid-ProvideLocationInformation
                                        ECID-ProvideLocationInformation
                                                                             OPTIONAL,
    epdu-ProvideLocationInformation
                                        EPDU-Sequence
                                                                             OPTIONAL.
    . . .
    ]]]
    sensor-ProvideLocationInformation-r13
                                        Sensor-ProvideLocationInformation-r13
                                                                             OPTIONAL.
    tbs-ProvideLocationInformation-r13 TBS-ProvideLocationInformation-r13
                                                                             OPTIONAL,
    wlan-ProvideLocationInformation-r13 WLAN-ProvideLocationInformation-r13 OPTIONAL,
   bt-ProvideLocationInformation-r13
                                       BT-ProvideLocationInformation-r13
                                                                             OPTIONAL
    ]],
    [[ nr-ECID-ProvideLocationInformation-r16
                                    NR-ECID-ProvideLocationInformation-r16
                                                                                 OPTIONAL.
        nr-Multi-RTT-ProvideLocationInformation-r16
                                    NR-Multi-RTT-ProvideLocationInformation-r16 OPTIONAL,
        nr-DL-AoD-ProvideLocationInformation-r16
                                    NR-DL-AoD-ProvideLocationInformation-r16
                                                                                  OPTIONAL,
        nr-DL-TDOA-ProvideLocationInformation-r16
                                    NR-DL-TDOA-ProvideLocationInformation-r16
                                                                                 OPTIONAL
    ]]
}
-- ASN1STOP
```

40. T-Mobile's mobile location services meet all the requirements of limitation D of claim 30. Limitation D requires the step of "receiving femto base station position information." On information and belief, T-Mobile's location servers receive a reachable femto base station's position information from the femto base station. For example, the E-SMLC communicates with reachable eNodeB base stations including femto base stations to obtain their location information. *See, e.g.*, TS 36.455 §§ 7, 8.2, 9.2; *see also, e.g.*, TS 36.305 § 5.2.

41. By way of further non-limiting example, a location server such as an E-SMLC may also receive position information of an eNodeB including femtocells from a T-Mobile database or data source containing known positions of eNodeBs. T-Mobile's femto base stations, for example, are also equipped with GPS receivers for reporting their position information to the location server. See <u>https://www.t-mobile.com/support/public-files/images/support-non-</u> <u>device/4G%20LTE%20CellSpot%20Quick%20Start%20Guide.pdf</u> (last visited May 12, 2021). Therefore, T-Mobile's mobile location services meet limitation D of claim 30.

42. T-Mobile's mobile location services also meet all the requirements of limitation E of claim 30. Limitation E requires the step of "determining user equipment location information based on a first particle filtering for particle filtering the first set of particles based on the base station information." On information and belief, T-Mobile's location server determines a mobile device's location based on a first particle filtering of the first set of particles based on the base station information that the location server received. For example, the location estimates of a fixed position mobile device involve a spread of estimates around the actual mobile device position, having a statistical distribution. On information and belief, as estimated location samples or particles corresponding to mobile device location are continuously accumulated by T-Mobile's location server over time, the particles are filtered for determining the location of the mobile device. Thus, T-Mobile's mobile location services meet limitation E of claim 30.

43. On information and belief, T-Mobile's mobile location server equipment receives and stores computer-executable instructions that in response to execution causes a computing device including a processor to perform operations as recited in the method of claim 30 as described at paragraphs 43-51 above.

44. Accordingly, on information and belief, T-Mobile's mobile location services meet all the limitations of, and therefore infringe, at least claim 30 of the `819 Patent.

45. T-Mobile has notice that it infringes at least claim 30 of the `819 Patent at least as of the service of this complaint. T-Mobile continues to infringe the `819 Patent based on the actions detailed above.

46. As a result of T-Mobile's infringement of the '819 Patent, K.Mizra has suffered and continues to suffer substantial injury and is entitled to recover all damages caused by T-Mobile's infringement to the fullest extent permitted by the Patent Act, together with prejudgment interest and costs for T-Mobile's wrongful conduct.

# PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, K.Mizra respectfully requests judgment against T-Mobile as follows:

A. That the Court enter judgment for K.Mizra on all causes of action asserted in this Complaint;

B. That the Court enter judgment in favor of K.Mizra and against T-Mobile for monetary damages to compensate it for T-Mobile's infringement of the Patent-in-Suit pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284, including costs and pre and post-judgment interest as allowed by law;

C. That the Court enter judgment in favor of K.Mizra and against T-Mobile for accounting and/or supplemental damages for all damages occurring after any discovery cutoff and through the Court's entry of final judgment;

D. That the Court adjudge T-Mobile's infringement of the Patent-in-Suit to be willful dated from the filing of this Complaint;

E. That the Court enter judgment that this case is exceptional under 35 U.S.C. § 285 and enter an award to K.Mizra of its costs and attorneys' fees; and

F. That the Court award K.Mizra all further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Case 2:21-cv-00242-JRG Document 1 Filed 06/30/21 Page 14 of 14 PageID #: 14

## JURY DEMAND

K.Mizra requests that all claims and causes of action raised in this Complaint against T-Mobile be tried to a jury to the fullest extent possible.

DATED: June 30, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Cristofer I. Leffler w/permission Andrea L. Fair Cristofer I. Leffler, WA Bar No. 35020-LEAD COUNSEL Cliff Win, Jr., CA Bar No. 270517 Folio Law Group PLLC 14512 Edgewater Lane NE Lake Forest Park, WA 98155 Tel: (206) 512-9051 Email: cris.leffler@foliolaw.com cliff.win@foliolaw.com

Joseph M. Abraham, TX Bar No. 24088879 Law Office of Joseph M. Abraham, PLLC 13492 Research Blvd., Suite 120, No. 177 Austin, TX 78750 Tel: (737) 234-0201 Email: joe@joeabrahamlaw.com

Of Counsel:

Andrea L. Fair Texas Bar No. 24078488 Claire Abernathy Henry Texas Bar No. 24053063 **WARD, SMITH & HILL, PLLC** 1507 Bill Owens Pkwy. Longview, TX 75604 Tel: (903) 757-6400 Fax: (903) 757-2323 Email: andrea@wsfirm.com Email: claire@wsfirm.com

## Counsel for Plaintiff K.Mizra LLC