



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

August 2, 2024

D. James Bidzos
President and CEO
Verisign, Inc.
12061 Bluemont Way
Reston, VA 20190

Dear Mr. Bidzos:

The security, stability, and resilience of the Internet's unique identifier systems is of paramount importance to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the broader public interest. NTIA is also committed to protecting and promoting the multistakeholder system of Internet governance.

The Verisign Cooperative Agreement is an agreement between Verisign and the Department of Commerce to manage certain Domain Name System responsibilities. The Agreement has evolved over time. The Department of Commerce continues to oversee a set of limited functions associated with .com. In accordance with NTIA's commitment to Internet stability and security, NTIA intends to renew its Agreement with Verisign.

At the same time, in light of recent public inquiries, NTIA has questions related to pricing in the .com market. We are therefore pleased that Verisign has agreed to discussions regarding .com pricing and the health of the .com ecosystem, including retail and secondary markets. The parties will discuss possible solutions that benefit end-users, both businesses and consumers, and serve the public interest. To inform these conversations, NTIA will draw on the expertise of its federal government partners as appropriate.

We appreciate Verisign's commitment to work together toward mutually agreed solutions, which may include an amendment to the pricing terms of the cooperative agreement. We also appreciate Verisign's longstanding and effective stewardship of its responsibilities, including management of the .com registry and other critical functions of the Internet's technical architecture.

Sincerely,

Alan Davidson
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for
Communications and Information and NTIA
Administrator