

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Appointment of Jane E. Johnson to the
Telecommunications Access System Act of
1991 (TASA) Advisory Committee.

DOCKET NO. 20200047-TP
ORDER NO. PSC-2020-0071-FOF-TP
ISSUED: March 6, 2020

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

GARY F. CLARK, Chairman
ART GRAHAM
JULIE I. BROWN
DONALD J. POLMANN
ANDREW GILES FAY

ORDER APPOINTING
JANE E. JOHNSON
TO THE TASA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BY THE COMMISSION:

Case Background

The Telecommunications Access System Act of 1991¹ (TASA) established a statewide telecommunications relay system. Section 427.704(1), F.S., provides that the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) shall establish, implement, promote, and oversee the administration of a statewide telecommunications access system to provide access to telecommunications relay services by persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, and others who communicate with them.

Pursuant to Section 427.706(1), F.S., the Commission must appoint an advisory committee of no more than 10 members to assist the Commission with Florida's relay system. There are currently seven representatives serving on the advisory committee.

Pursuant to Section 427.706(2), F.S., the advisory committee provides the expertise, experience, and perspective of persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired to the Commission and to the telecommunications relay service administrator, Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI). Specifically, the committee advises the Commission and FTRI on the quality and cost-effectiveness of the relay service system, including the distribution of specialized telecommunications equipment to clients. Members of the advisory committee are not compensated for their services but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses provided through the Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund.

¹ Sections 427.701 – 427.708, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Decision

Ms. Jane E. Johnson seeks appointment to the TASA advisory committee to further her efforts at the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living to improve access to telecommunications services for the deaf and hard of hearing. Centers for Independent Living are non-profit organizations that support independent living for persons with disabilities. Services provided include finding and using assistive technology. In her duties as the Executive Director for the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living, Ms. Johnson coordinates advocacy efforts that promote independence for individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Johnson has served as Chief of Staff for the Department of Children & Families (December 2012 - April 2017), as Health & Human Services Policy Coordinator for the Executive Office of the Governor (January 2011 - December 2012), as Director of the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities (April 2007 - May 2008), and as Executive Director of the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services & Technology (December 2003 - April 2007).

Some of Ms. Johnson's relevant volunteer contributions include: Board of Florida Disabled Outdoors Association; Governor's Commission on Disabilities; Florida Developmental Disabilities Council; and, Governor's Task Force on Accessible Electronic & Information Technology.

Ms. Johnson holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Georgetown University, and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Norwich University.

Ms. Johnson's experience with Florida's Centers for Independent Living, and advocacy on behalf of citizens with disabilities make her an excellent candidate for appointment to the TASA advisory committee as set forth at Section 427.706(2), F.S. Therefore, we shall appoint Ms. Jane E. Johnson to the TASA advisory committee effective immediately.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Jane E. Johnson is hereby appointed to the to the TASA advisory committee effective immediately. It is further,

ORDERED that this Docket is hereby closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 6th day of March, 2020.



ADAM J. TEITZMAN
Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
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Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 413-6770
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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

CWM

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request:

- 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or
- 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Office of Commission Clerk, and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.