



SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT **ORIGINAL**
Office of the County Attorney

1660 Ringling Blvd.
Second Floor
Sarasota, Florida 34236

Jorge L. Fernández
County Attorney

March 24, 1999

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RECEIVED
MAR 25 9 52 AM '99
ADMINISTRATIVE
MAIL ROOM

Re: Docket No. 99-0223-TL

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed is the original and fifteen(15) copies of the Pre-Hearing Statement of Sarasota County, Florida, a party in the above-referenced proceeding.

Please indicate receipt of this filing on the enclosed copy of this letter and return to the undersigned in the enclosed stamped envelope. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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Sincerely,

Kathleen F. Schneider
Assistant County Attorney

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FSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

Telephone: (941) 316-7272 Fax: (941) 316-7267

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

03850 MAR 25 99

FPSD-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for Review of Proposed
Numbering Plan Relief for the 941
Area Code

Docket 99-0223-TL

PREHEARING STATEMENT

I. WITNESSES/ SUBJECT MATTER OF TESTIMONY:

- A. Shannon Staub, Chair, Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners –impact of area code change on citizens of Sarasota County; alternatives to the proposed Northwest/Southeast split; objection to the overlay alternative
- B. Gregg D. Feagans, Emergency Management Chief, Emergency Services Business Center, Sarasota County – impact of area code change on emergency management services; impact of multiple area codes in one county on emergency management services; alternatives to the proposed split
- C. William W. Couch, Vice President of Public Affairs, The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce – impact of area code change on businesses in Sarasota County; alternatives to proposed split; objection to overlay alternative
- D. James R. Ewing, Esq., Chairman, Southwest County Alliance of Homeowners Associations – impact of area code change on citizens of Sarasota County; alternatives to the proposed Northwest/Southeast split

II. EXHIBITS None

III. BASIC POSITION:

Frequent changes to the area code have a significant impact on the governmental emergency services as well as on the continued economic development of the County. Sarasota County’s current area code was implemented only three (3) years ago. The projected exhaust period for the proposed split is 5.2 years. This limited exhaust period is contrary to the NPA Code Relief Planning &

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

Notification Guidelines, which recommends that relief activity be implemented that prevents customers from having to undergo number changes for 8 to 10 years.

The Board of County Commissioners recommends that the area code service areas be reconfigured as smaller geographic areas so as to lengthen the exhaust period. The overlay alternative is not viable as it creates confusion for the County's significant senior population as well as the tourist industry and effectively undermines the concept of a unified, interactive business community.

IV. QUESTIONS OF FACT:

- A. Question: Whether a split of the current 941 area code service area into more than one additional geographic area code service area, while maintaining a single area code for all of Sarasota County, would alleviate the adverse impacts of frequent area code changes on businesses, citizens, government and the tourism industry.

Sarasota County's position: A split of the current 941 area code service area into more than one additional geographic area code service area, while maintaining a single area code for all of Sarasota County, would alleviate the adverse impacts of frequent area code changes on businesses, citizens, government and the tourism industry.

Witnesses: Shannon Staub, Gregg D. Feagans, William W. Couch, James R. Ewing, Esq.

- B. Question: Whether other viable alternatives exist for the current 941 area code service area which would address Sarasota County's concerns and be in compliance with the NPA Code Relief Planning Notification Guidelines.

Sarasota County's position: Alternatives exist for the current 941 area code service area which would address Sarasota County's concerns and be in compliance with the NPA Code Relief Planning Notification Guidelines.

Witnesses: Shannon Staub, James R. Ewing, Esq.

- C. Question: Whether multiple area codes within a single county would have an adverse impact on implementation of the county's emergency services.

Sarasota County's position: Multiple area codes within a single county would have an adverse impact on implementation of the county's emergency services.

Witnesses: Gregg D. Feagans

- D. Question: Whether multiple area codes within a single county would have an adverse impact on local businesses.

Sarasota County's position: Multiple area codes within a single county would have an adverse impact on local businesses.

Witness: William W. Couch

V. QUESTIONS OF POLICY:

- A. Question: Whether NANPA should give full consideration to the concerns of local governments and their citizens, and not just to industry, in making their determinations as to area code splits and overlays.

Sarasota County's position: NANPA should give full consideration to the concerns of local governments and their citizens, and not just to industry, in making their determinations as to area code splits and overlays.

Witness: Shannon Staub

VI. STIPULATIONS: None

VI. PENDING MOTIONS OR OTHER RELATED MATTERS:

- A. Motion to Consolidate 99-0183-TL and 99-0184-TL
- B. Motion to Intervene Sarasota County, Charlotte County, BellSouth Mobility
- C. Englewood docket – 99-0184-TL

Respectfully submitted this 24th day of March, 1999.

Office of the County Attorney
Jorge L. Fernández, County Attorney
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By: Kathleen F. Schneider
Kathleen F. Schneider, Esq.
Fla. Bar No. 0873306
(direct all future correspondence to
Attorney Schneider)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
DOCKET NO. 99-0223-TL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by U.S. Mail, this 24th day of March, 1999 to the following:

Mr. Frank Heaton
Cellular One
2100 Electronics Lane
Fort Myers, FL 33912

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Kathleen F. Schneider, Esq.