BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida Public Service Commission of Pay Telephone Certificate No. 4326 issued to Maria Elena Medina for violation of Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies.

DOCKET NO. 010284-TC ORDER NO. PSC-01-1092-PAA-TC ISSUED: May 7, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

E. LEON JACOBS, JR., Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
LILA A. JABER
BRAULIO L. BAEZ
MICHAEL A. PALECKI

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER CANCELING PAY TELEPHONE CERTIFICATE INVOLUNTARILY

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Maria Elena Medina (Mrs. Medina) currently holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 4326, issued by the Commission on November 23, 1995, authorizing the provision of Pay Telephone service. Mrs. Medina has not paid the Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs) required by Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, for the year 2000. Also, accrued statutory penalties and interest charges for the years 1996, 1997, and 2000 have not been paid.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
05746 MAY-75

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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Pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual RAF of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. Pursuant to Rule 25-4.0161 (2), Florida Administrative Code, the form and applicable fees are due to the Florida Public Service Commission by January 30 of the subsequent year. All entities that apply for certification receive a copy of our rules governing Pay Telephone service.

Pursuant to Section 350.113(4), Florida Statutes, the RAFs forms, for the period of January 1, through December 31, are mailed to the entities at least 45 days prior to the date that payment of the fee is due. Mrs. Medina was scheduled to remit its RAFs by January 31, 2001.

On December 31, 2000, we received Mrs. Medina's 2000 RAF return notice with a handwritten note "company was closed." Our staff wrote Mrs. Medina on January 17, 2001, and explained that before a voluntary cancellation could be recommended, she needed to write the Commission a letter specifically requesting cancellation of her certificate, and advised her to pay the 2000 RAF, along with penalty and interest charges for the years 1996 and 1997, as required by Rule 25-24.514, Florida Administrative Code.

Mrs. Medina has not complied with Rule 25-24.514(2), Florida Administrative Code, which states:

- (2) If a certificated company desires to cancel its certificate, it shall request cancellation from the Commission in writing and shall provide the following with its request:
- (a) Statement of intent and date to pay Regulatory Assessment Fee.
- (b) Statement of why the certificate is proposed to be cancelled.

Accordingly, since the company's certificate remains active until it requests a voluntary cancellation pursuant to Rule 25-24.514(2), Florida Administrative Code, or we involuntarily cancel the certificate, Mrs. Medina is responsible for the RAFs. As of the date of the vote, Mrs. Medina continues to be in violation of

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our rules for nonpayment of RAFs for the year 2000, along with accrued statutory penalties and interest charges for the years 1996, 1997, and 2000.

For the reasons described above, pursuant to Rule 25-24.514(1)(b) and (c), Florida Administrative Code, we deny Mrs. Medina's request for voluntary cancellation of Pay Telephone Certificate No. 4326 for failure to comply with the provisions of Rule 25-24.514(2), Florida Administrative Code. However, we find it appropriate to involuntarily cancel Mrs. Medina's certificate, effective date of issuance of the Consummating Order, for failure to pay RAFs pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code. Mrs. Medina shall return to this Commission the Order granting authority to provide Pay Telephone services.

Since Mrs. Medina is no longer in business, there would be no purpose in requiring Mrs. Medina to pay a fine. By involuntarily canceling Mrs. Medina's certificate, however, we would be able to track this company should it apply for another certificate with us in the future. The cancellation of the certificate and the closing of the Docket in no way diminishes Mrs. Medina's obligation to pay applicable delinquent RAFs, statutory penalties, and interest charges. The collection of the past due fees shall be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts. The Commission is vested jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336 and 364.285, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that we hereby deny Maria Elena Medina's request for voluntary cancellation of Pay Telephone Certificate No. 4326. It is further

ORDERED that pursuant to Rule 25-24.514(1)(b) and(c), Florida Administrative Code, we hereby cancel Maria Elena Medina's Pay Telephone Certificate No. 4326, effective date of issuance of the Consummating Order, for failure to comply with Rule 25-24.514(2), Florida Administrative Code; Section 364.336, Florida Statutes; and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code. It is further

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ORDERED that Maria Elena Medina shall return to this Commission the Order granting authority to provide Pay Telephone services. It is further

ORDERED that Maria Elena Medina remains obligated for all due and owing Regulatory Assessment Fees for the year 2000, as well as accrued statutory penalties and interest charges for the years 1996, 1997, and 2000. The collection of the past due fees shall be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this Docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 7th day of May, 2001.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

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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 that is available under Section 120.57, 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 will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on May 28, 2001.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.