

PUBLIC COUNSEL

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL



c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison Street Room 812 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400 904-488-9330

September 21, 1990

Steve Tribble, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 101 East Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 891194-TI

Dear Mr. Tribble:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding on behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida are the original and 12 copies of Citizens' Petition to Require the Offering of Call-Trace Service to all Customers at Reasonable, Usage Based Rates to be filed in this docket.

nices indicate the time and date of receipt on the enclosed

	of this letter and return	it to our office.
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In re: Proposed tariff filings by)
SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH)
COMPANY clarifying when a nonpublished)
number can be disclosed and introducing)
Caller ID to TouchStar Service)

Docket No. 891194-TI Filed: September 21, 1990

YETITION TO REQUIRE THE OFFERING OF CALL-TRACE SERVICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS AT REASONABLE, USAGE PASED RATES

The Citizens of Florida ("Citizens"), by and through Jack Shreve, Public Counsel, petition the Commission to require chose local exchange companies in Florida offering call-trace service to offer the service to all of their subscribers at reasonable, usage based rates.

- 1. Call-trace is one of a number of new services using the common channel signaling system 7 network to provide a host of new capabilities to customers.
- 2. Call-trace allows the receiver of a call to forward the calling party's telephone number to the telephone company. From there the telephone company can provide the number to law enforcement authorities for further disposition. This new call-trace allows the customer to implement the service immediately by using the star symbol and two digits to activate the service from their phone.

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- 3. In any prosecution for illegal obscene or harassing phone calls, call-trace provides a means to provide independent verification of the number from which an obscene or harassing phone call was made.
- 4. In New Jersey call-trace was made available to <u>all</u> customers at the same time Caller I.D. was introduced. Under the rate structure proposed and adopted in New Jersey, all customers automatically have call-trace available, and the customer is charged <u>one dollar</u> for each use of call-trace.
- 5. On the other hand, in Florida Southern Bell requires custoners to presubscribe to call-trace before it is made available, and it then charges a monthly fee of four dollars per month for the availability of the service whether it is used or not. This rate structure and rate level discourages wide use and availability of the service. Centel offers the service automatically to all of its customers, but at a rate of four dollars per use. The Citizens recommend that call-trace be offered at a rate of one dollar per use throughout Florida, similar to the rate in effect in New Jersey.
- 6. Call trace offers an effective means to combat obscene and harassing phone calls. If made available generally to all customers at reasonable, usage based rates, every would-be obscene or harassing phone caller would know that the called party has

call-trace available to forward the calling party's number to authorities for further legal action. A rate of no more than one dollar per use would be a fair rate, consistent with the public service provided by call-trace.

WHEREFORE, the Citizens request the Commission to require those local exchange companies in Florida offering call-trace service to offer the service to all of their subscribers at reasonable, usage based rates.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Shreve

Public Counsel

Charles J. Bekk

Assistant Public Counsel

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(904) 488-9330

Attorneys for the Citizens of the State of Florida

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Dockot No. Solloa-TI

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail or hand-delivery to the following parties this 21st day of September, 1990.

Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company
Attn: Marchall M. Criser, III
150 S. Monroe St. #400

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Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876 Tallahassee, FL 32301

A Aabaco Locksmith Attn: David Merkatz P.O. Box 5301 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310

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Charles J. Beck

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