# BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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: October 26, 1990

### JOINT PREHEARING STATEMENT

Robert A. Butterworth, Attorney General of Florida ("Attorney General"), Peter Antonacci, Florida Statewide Prosecutor ("Statewide Prosecutor"), and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, ("FDLE"), submit this Joint Prehearing Statement pursuant to the Commissions's Order on Prehearing Procedure, Order No. 23445, issued September 6, 1990.

## All Known Witnesses

Neither the Attorney General nor the Statewide Prosecutor have submitted prefiled direct testimony regarding Caller ID or related services. However, the Attorney General and the Statewide Prosecutor hereby join and incorporate by reference the direct testimony of those known witnesses provided by the Citizens of the State of Florida by and through Jack Shreve, Public Counsel, ("Public Counsel")(See Prehearing Statement of Public Counsel), by the Florida Department of General Services ("DGS")(See Prehearing Statement of DGS), and by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement ("FDLE"). Furthermore, the Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE would join and incorporate by reference any rebuttal testimony filed by Public

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Counsel or DGS in the future. FDLE witness Ron Tudor will also provide rebuttal testimony. Additionally, Tudor's direct testimony contains attachments which should be considered as our exhibits.

## Statement of Basic Position

The Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE have very serious concerns over both the legality and practicality of introducing any form of Caller ID service in Florida. First, for reasons set out below, the Attorney General, the Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE believe Caller ID, as proposed by Scuthern bell in this tariff, may violate criminal statut: §934.31, Fla. Stat., and that its implementation could constitute a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in Florida Statutes §5 775.082, 775.083, or 934.41.

Second, the Attorney General, the Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE submit that introduction of the Caller ID service would submit the hundreds of state and federal law enforcement agents working in the area of narcotics interdiction to the potential for serious personal injury or death. The attempts to reconcile the needs of law enforcement with the desires of Southern Bell to implement the service have not, despite good faith negotiating efforts, resulted in a compromise which would insure the safety of law enforcement officers and civilian operators involved in undercover a rootics or other criminal investigations. While

some law enforcement officials or agencies may take a position contrary to the Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, or FDLE, it is our considered belief that nearly every major law enforcement agency at the state or federal level engaged in the specific task of drug interdiction and other complex undercover criminal investigations flatly opposes Caller ID.

Finally, the proponents of Caller ID as a method for intercepting and/or deterring obscene or harassing phone calls conveniently overlook the service known as Call Trace which provides that capability in a manner consistent with Florida's wiretapping laws. The Attorney General has previously communicated to this Commission his belief that a Call Trace option based upon a per call fee is a most effective method of combating obscene or harassing phone calls and prosecuting offenders. A similar communication has been provided to the Comm by FDEE Commissioner Tim Moore. Furthermore, the Attorney General has previously communicated to this Commission his concern that Culler ID mechanisms will provide those unlawful organizations dealing in commodities or security fraud, commonly known as "boiler room operators", a valuable tool for obtaining the telephone numbers of potential victims.

#### Issues

Issue 1: For the purpose of this docket, what is the definition of Caller ID?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: Caller ID is a service proposed by Southern Bell that would allow customers to use a display to show the calling party's telephone number when tehy answer the telephone.

<u>Issue 2</u>: Is Caller ID a trap and trace device as described in Chapter 934, Florida Statutes?

> Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: Caller ID, as proposed by Southern Bell, constitutes a trap and trace device as defined by §934.02(21), Fla. Stat. Pursuant to the statute, a trap-andtrace device is a device which "captures electronic or other the incoming impulses which identify the originating number of an instrument or a device from which a wire or electronic communication was transmitted."

lssue 3: Does Caller ID violate any federal laws or any laws of the State of Florida?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: Florida Statutes 8934.31 and 18 U.S.C. \$3121 both prohibit the general use of pen registers and trap and trace devices except in three defined situations. Ongoing research indicates that the United States Congress did not intend to allow telephone companies to avoid the general prohibition against trap and trace 18 U.S.C. 83121 devices when To quote the Congressional enacted. Research Service of the Library of Congress: "The Act's legislative history tails to refute the plain meaning of the Act's language and may be read to confirm that Congress intended the Act's proscription to apply to such cases (Caller ID). None of the act's exceptions appear applicable under most circumstances."

Because Florida's law mirrors the federal statute, it appears that Caller ID would violate both the federal and state statutes. We intend to continue our research and provide the Commission with further direction as part of our legal briefing.

# Issue 4: Does Caller ID violate Florida's Constitution?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, FDLE Position: The Attorney and General. Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE are currently researching Floride's Pight to Privacy Law, Article 1, §23, Florida Constitution, and attendant Supreme Court of Florida case law in an effort to answer this question. Based on the court's recent decision in Shactman v. State, 553 So.2d 148 (Fla. 1989), in which the court held that the telephone numbers of an individual may not be intercepted by other parties through use of a pen register absent a compelling governmental interest such as enforcement of Florida's criminal laws, we have serious concerns over the potential infringement of individual caller priintend to continue our VACV. We research and provide the Commission with further direction on this point as part of our legal briefing.

Issue 5: What are the benefits and detriments to Florida's consumers of Caller ID services?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: Caller ID has been touted as a method to protect phone customers from obscene or harassing telephone calls. Given the existence of competing technologies such as Califrace (which accomplishes the same task)

and the absence of any other expressed rationale for its implementation, it is our position that the service is of little benefit to the consumers of Florida. On the negative side, the service offers the real risk of serious injury or death to Florida's law enforcement officers and also provides "boiler room operators" with an important tool to enable them to pry upon potential victims of their fraudulent schemes. Furthermore, Caller ID would disrupt the prevalent and long established practice of allowing individuals to obtain, at a cost, an unlisted telephone number by obliging those individuals holding such numbers to purchase the number and then pay for repeat protection by the purchase of Call Blocking. Thus, the cervices are of little or no benefit yet offers the potential for extreme detriment to law enforcement officers, potential victims of crime and existing telephone customers.

Trace, Call Return, Call Block, etc.) that have similar functions and/or benefits as Caller ID; if so, what are their detriments? Is their rate structure appropriate?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: As discussed in Issue 5, we believe that Call Trace provides the same benefits and protections against obscene and harassing phone calls as Caller ID. Other alternative class offerings provide equally effective substitutes to Caller ID and available at the present These offerings do not present the dangers or concerns we have outlined above. We join the position set forth by Public Counsel that the availability of Call Trace at a reasonable price allows the public to achieve greatly enhanced functionality without the major cost or impact of Caller ID.

lssue 7: What effect will Caller ID have on nonpublished
and unlisted subscribers?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: We adopt the position advanced by the Public Counsel on behalf of the Citizens of Florida that the more than 1 million Southern Bell customers with either nonpublished or unlisted telephone numbers have a legitimate expectation that their numbers will remain private and that continued privacy should not be conditioned upon their payment of an additional fee for blocking service.

Tusue 6: What alternatives to Caller ID blocking are available and do they sufficiently protect customers' anonymity?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: The answer to this issue will be based in part on whether it is determined that Caller ID violates Florida and federal law. If Caller ID violates Florida law, it is our view that no option would be viable. If it is determined that Caller ID does not violate Florida law, we would adopt the position taken by the Public Counsel and DGS on this point.

Issue 9: Should the Commission allow or require the blocking of Caller ID? If so, to whom and under what circumstance?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: Our position on this point is outlined in Issue 8 above.

Issue 10: What special arrangements, if any, should be made regarding Caller ID for law enforcement personnel?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor and FDLE Position: If it is determined that Caller ID is not violative of Florida Statutes or Florida Constitution, law enforcement should be extended Call Block capability at no charge. further technology, such as the options which have been proposed by the phone companies, comes on line that assures anonymity of undercover operatives. these systems should be made available to law enforcement at no cost. should be stressed however that such options should be considered a supplement to universally-available Blocking and not considered a substitute for such blocking.

Issue 11: What special arrangements, if any, should be made
regarding Caller ID for any other group or groups?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: Our position on this point is outlined in Issue 8 above.

Issue 12: Is Caller ID in the public interest?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: It is our position that Caller ID is not in the public interest but is only in the interest of those telecommunication providers who seek to expand their services into the area of information brokering.

Issue 13: What further action should be taken on Southern Ball's tariff filings introducing Caller ID (T-89-507) and changing the conditions under which nonpublished number

information will be divulged (T-90-0231? What should be the effective date of such action?

Attorney General, Statewide Prosecutor, and FDLE Position: The Commission should reject any and all tariff filings seeking to introduce Caller ID or changing the conditions under which nonpublished number information will be divulged. Such action should be taken as soon as possible.

## Stipulations

Neither the Attorney General, the Statewide Prosecutor, nor the FDLE have stipulated to any issues with any parties.

## Pending Motions

motion filed by Public Counsel to compel and request in camera inspection of documents filed on or about August 7, 1990, or Public Counsel's motion to consolidate consideration of Caller ID tariff filings and to conduct generic proceedings filed on or about September 24, 1990. Additionally, Public Counsel's Petition To Require the Offering Of Call Trace Service To All Customers At Reasonable, Usage Based Rates filed September 21, 1990, and joined by the Attorney General remains unresolved.

### Other Matters

The Attorney General, the Statewide Presecutor and FDLE have met the requirements set forth in the Commission's order on prehearing procedure, Order No. 23445, issued September 6, 1930.

TIM MOORS Commissioner

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Respectfully submitted,

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail to the attached list of people, this 26 day of October 1990

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