

SWIDLER BERLIN SHEREFF FRIEDMAN, LLP ORIGINAL

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NEW YORK OFFICE
THE CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10174

March 3, 2000

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870

ORIGINAL

DEPOSIT

DATE

D257

MAR 07 2000

000284-TX

Re: Application of ConnectSouth Communications of Florida, Inc. for Authority to Provide Alternative Local Exchange Service in Florida

Dear Ms. Bayo:

- AFA _____
- APP _____
- CAF _____
- CMU
- CTR _____
- EAG _____
- LEG
- MAS _____
- OPC _____
- RRR _____
- SEC
- WAW _____
- OTH _____

Enclosed for filing on behalf of ConnectSouth Communications of Florida, Inc. ("ConnectSouth") please find an original and five (5) copies of ConnectSouth's application for authority to provide alternative local exchange service in Florida. Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$250.00 to cover the application filing fee.

Please note that ConnectSouth is requesting confidential treatment of its financial statements which are attached as Exhibit 1 to its certification application. Pursuant to Section 364.183(1) of the Florida Rules of Practice and Procedure, ConnectSouth is filing one original copy of its financial information and two (2) redacted copies. The financial information included in Exhibit 1 to ConnectSouth's application, contains proprietary, commercially sensitive information that, if disseminated, could be used to the Applicant's detriment by competitors. Applicant therefore respectfully seeks to have this information protected as it constitutes sensitive and proprietary data.

Please date-stamp the enclosed extra copy of this filing and return in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided. Should you have any questions concerning this filing, please do not hesitate to contact Paul W. Garnett at (202) 945-6925. Thank you very much.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS PRINTED ON CHEMICAL REACTIVE PAPER & HAS A MICROPRINTED BORDER

SWIDLER BERLIN SHEREFF FRIEDMAN, LLP
3000 K STREET, N.W. (SUITE 300)
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

CHECK DATE: 03/03/00
CHECK NO. D-119747

Citibank DC Operating
1775 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 440
Washington, DC 20006

CHECK AMOUNT: 250.00

TWO HUNDRED FIFTY AND 00/100 Dollars

TWO SIGNATURES REQUIRED ON CHECK OVER \$10,000

PAY TO THE ORDER OF: FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OPERATING ACCOUNT

DOCUMENT NUMBER: DATE

3000 MAR 03 2000

THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS DOCUMENT INCLUDES AN ARTIFICIAL WATERMARK. HOLD AT AN ANGLE TO VIEW

119747

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Respectfully yours,



Andrew D. Lipman
Paul W. Garnett

Counsel for ConnectSouth Communications of
Florida, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Walker D'Haeseleer, Director Communications Division
Christopher E. Hugman