



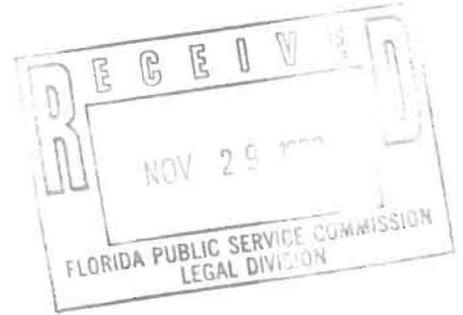
# County of Volusia

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ORIGINAL

November 23, 1999

Ms. Beth Keating  
State of Florida  
Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850



**Re: PSC (904) Overlay Proceeding  
Docket No. 990517-TL**

Dear Ms. Keating:

Enclosed herewith please find an original Notice of Service regarding the filing of the direct testimony of Robert M. Weiss.

Sincerely,

Marcy A. Zimmerman-Rigsby, Legal Secretary to  
Matthew Guy Minter, Assistant County Attorney

:mazr  
Enclosure

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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION  
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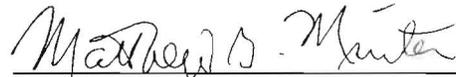


**BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Re: PSC (904) Overlay Proceeding  
Docket No. 990517-TL

**NOTICE OF SERVICE**

The County of Volusia hereby gives notice that a true and correct copy of the Direct Testimony of Robert M. Weiss on behalf of the County of Volusia which was filed November 16, 1999 in the above matter (a copy of which is attached hereto) has been furnished via U.S. Mail to the parties set forth on the attached list, on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1999



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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

ROBERT M. WEISS

Q. Please state your name, organization, address and title.

A. My name is Robert M. Weiss, I am the Communications Director for Volusia County government. My business address is 123 W. Indiana Avenue, Room #205, DeLand, Florida 32720. The telephone number is (904) 822-5750.

Q. Please describe your educational background and professional experience.

A. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts and a Master of Business Administration degree in Management Information Systems from American University in Washington, D.C.

I had over 26 years experience managing military communications prior to retiring as a Colonel, U.S. Army, in 1989. Included in that experience is a one year tour of executive training with industry with NYNEX and AT&T in engineering and management. Upon retirement, I came to my current position which I have now held for ten (10) years.

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to address the position of Volusia County government, representing

the citizenry of the County, concerning PSC Docket 990517-TL, Request for Review of Proposed Numbering Plan Relief for the 904 Area Code.

My testimony will be structured to respond to the issues identified for this docket, but I must initially provide some background information concerning calling patterns, calling rates, and area code divisions within Volusia County.

Volusia County has been arbitrarily and inconveniently split for telephone calling purposes since the AT&T modified final judgment (MFJ) which established rules and calling areas subsequent to the breakup of the Bell System in the 1984 time frame. The local access and transport area (LATA) boundary dividing the Daytona Beach calling area or LATA from the Orlando LATA goes right through southwest Volusia County without any respect for, or consideration of, political boundaries. Since the time of this division, Volusia County's southwest sector has increased in population dramatically. Particularly of note is the incorporation of the second largest city in the County, as well as one of the fastest growing areas of the state, in Deltona. The present situation, therefore, has over one-third of the citizens of the County separated from the other two-thirds by a LATA boundary.

There are additional complicating, negative factors concerning telephone service in the area. At present, the telephone subscribers in the southwest Volusia County/Deltona area are served by two (2) local exchange companies (LECs), BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Sprint-Florida, Inc. The region is also unique in that an area code or numbering plan area (NPA) boundary divides the area but in a different way and place from the LATA boundary. The subscribers in the Sprint exchange of Orange City are in 904 NPA. The BellSouth exchanges are in the 407 area. The City of Deltona is served by two (2) LECs, three (3) exchanges and two (2) area codes, soon to be

overlaid with a third. In most, but not all instances nationally, the NPA and LATA boundaries follow the same line. This is not the case in southwest Volusia County/Deltona area.

In summary, in this county we have neighbors within the same county and often the same city having to make long distance calls literally across the street and having to dial 11 digits to communicate with one another. The Florida Public Service Commission has been understanding in the past and supportive of efforts to correct these serious drawbacks to County telephone service. The PSC has been thwarted in its ability to correct this situation to a large extent by the lack of options concerning interLATA calling.

This area code issue represents a real opportunity to provide some positive impetus toward solving the poor situation existing in this portion of Florida.

Q. Should the Commission approve the industry's consensus relief plan?

A. No. Area code overlays only compound an already confusing situation. Geographic and political identification of telephone subscribers makes significantly more sense to users, even if it involves some subscribers experiencing number changing.

This County feels strongly that it must be given a single area code (NPA) throughout to provide some relief. We understand that the County alone may not have enough subscribers to warrant our own, exclusive, NPA but may have to share with neighboring counties. That situation is acceptable, although our own exclusive NPA would be preferred. We also understand that the current 904 and 407 NPAs would probably be given to other areas if geographic distribution of NPA is approved for this portion of Florida.

Q. What number conservation measure(s), if any, should be implemented?

A. Smallest block distribution that produces longest life for NPA prior to exhaustion.

Q. What should be the dialing pattern for the following type of calls?:

- A) Local
- B) Toll
- C) EAS (costs included in local rate)
- D) ECS (\$.25 per call residential)

A. 

- A) 7-digit
- B) 11-digit
- C) 7-digit
- D) 7-digit

Q. What is(are) the appropriate implementation schedule(s)?

A. As soon as possible commensurate with sufficient time to handle the consumer-related problems resulting from changing of numbers, with adequate lead time and intercept.

Q: Does this conclude your testimony?

A: Yes.