

ORIGINAL  
STATE OF FLORIDA

Commissioners:  
J. TERRY DEASON, CHAIRMAN  
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LILA A. JABER  
BRAULIO L. BAEZ



DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE SERVICES  
WALTER D'HAESELEER  
DIRECTOR  
(850) 413-6600

# Public Service Commission

November 14, 2000

Via Facsimile

Ms. Elizabeth Corddry, Consultant  
UniversalCom, Inc.  
2 North Main Street  
Greenville, SC 29601

**Re: Docket No. 001398-TS**

Dear Ms. Corddry:

This is a follow up to our telephone conversation concerning the above docket. The regulatory assessment fee (RAF) is due each year by January 30 for the previous year, unless the 30th falls on a weekend, then the due date is the next working day. For example, the 1999 fee was due January 31, 2000.

Commission records show that as of this date, the 1999 RAF has not been paid. It is my understanding that you will call the Division of Administration for a copy of the 1999 RAF return. Please complete and return it along with a check for the past due amount in full. The RAF is .0015% of your total Florida gross revenues, or \$50.00, whichever is greater. However, if the company owes only the minimum amount and if it is postmarked by November 26, 2000, the 1999 total is \$67.50 (\$50.00 fee, \$12.50 penalty, and \$5.00 interest). If the check is postmarked between November 27 and December 26, 2000, the interest increases to \$5.50, or a total minimum amount of \$68.00. Our records also show that the company has a penalty (\$5.00) and interest (\$1.00) balance in the amount of \$6.00 from 1998. The fee was due February 1, 1999, and the company's check was postmarked April 1, 1999.

Since the Commissioners have not yet voted on this docket, the company has three options.

- (1) Cancel the certificate voluntarily - Pay all past due charges in full, pay the current year's RAF or provide a date certain that it will be paid (such as 30 days from the date of the Commission Order cancelling your certificate), and write a letter requesting cancellation. A copy of our rule is attached.
- (2) Do nothing - In this case, the certificate will be cancelled on the Commission's own motion. All outstanding RAFs, including penalty and interest charges, will be turned over to the Comptroller's Office for collection.

APP \_\_\_\_\_  
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 COM \_\_\_\_\_  
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 OTH \_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Elizabeth Corddry, Consultant

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- (3) Propose a settlement - There is normally a \$500 fine imposed for this rule violation. It should be noted that just paying the past due amount will not prevent your certificate from being cancelled. To keep the certificate active, the company needs to write the Commission a settlement letter that must include the following:
- Docket number;
  - A check for the past due amount in full;
  - A statement that it has taken steps to prevent future late payments of the regulatory assessment fees and what those steps are; and
  - Make a specific monetary settlement.

Any settlement offer should be addressed to Ms. Blanca Bayó, Director, Division of Records and Reporting, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850. The proposed settlement amount should not be paid at this time, instead only the past due regulatory assessment fee, plus penalty and interest charges should be paid. The settlement amount, if approved by the Commission, must be paid within 10 business days after the Commission Order is issued.

Please let me know what your decision is by November 29, 2000. If you have any questions, just let me know. I can be reached at (850) 413-6502-voice, (850) 413-6503-fax, and by internet e-mail at [pisler@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:pisler@psc.state.fl.us).

Sincerely,



Paula J. Isler, Research Assistant  
Bureau of Service Evaluation & Compliance

Enclosure

cc: Docket No. 001398-TS  
Division of Legal Services (Banks)