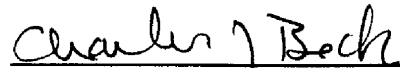


DOCKET NO. 000604-TL
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S.

Mail or hand-delivery to the following parties on this 20th day June, 2001.


Charles J. Beck

Lee Fordham
Division of Legal Services
Fla. Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Renee Frances Lee, County Attorney
Martha Young Burton
Charlotte County Attorney's Office
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1094

Robert H. Berntsson
City of Punta Gorda
326 W. Marion Ave.
Punta Gorda, FL 33950-4492

James A. Minix, Esq.
Manatee County
P.O. Box 1000
Bradenton, FL 34206-1000

Floyd Self, Esq.
Messer Law Firm
P.O. Box 1876
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876

Kimberly D. Wheeler
Morrison & Foerster Law Firm
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006-1888

Thomas C. Foley
NPA Relief Planner
NeuStar, Inc. NANPA
820 Riverbend Blvd.
Longwood, FL 32779

Peter Dunbar
Karen Camechis
Pennington Law Firm
P.O. Box 10095
Tallahassee, FL 32302-2095

Kenneth Hoffman, Esq.
Rutledge Law Firm
P.O. Box 551
Tallahassee, FL 32302-0551

Kathleen Schneider
Assistant County Attorney
Sarasota County
1660 Ringling Blvd. 2nd Floor
Sarasota, FL 34236

Charles Rehwinkel, Esq.
Sprint-Florida, Incorporated
MC FLTLHO0107
Tallahassee, FL 32316-2214

Ms. Carolyn Marek
Time Warner Telecom of Florida, L.P.
c/o Time Warner Telecom
Franklin, TN 37069-4002

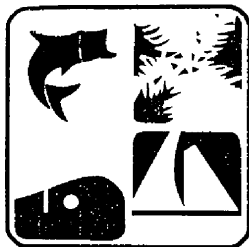
Ms. Michelle A. Robinson
c/o Mr. David Christian
Verizon Florida, Inc.
Tallahassee, FL 32301-7704

Kimberly Caswell
Verizon Select Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 110, FLTC0007
Tampa, FL 33601-2617

Anne Hoskins, Esq.
Verizon Wireless
1300 "Eye" Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005

000644.cos

Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce, Inc.



326 West Marion Avenue, Suite 112
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950
Telephone: (941) 639-2222
Fax: (941) 639-6330
Web page www.charlottecountychamber.org

2702 Tamiami Trail
Port Charlotte, Florida 33952
Telephone (941) 627-2222
Fax: (941) 627-9730
E-mail askus@charlottecountychamber.org

PLEASE REPLY TO:

Punta Gorda Office

Port Charlotte Office

PRESIDENT:
PAT COMBER

PRESIDENT-ELECT:
LANE DIEDRICK

VICE PRESIDENT/
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES:
DAVID A. HOLMES

VICE PRESIDENT/
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:
NANCY PADGETT

VICE PRESIDENT/
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:
KRISTINE WINDHARD

VICE PRESIDENT/
LEADERSHIP:
MICHAEL STAMPA, D.O.

TREASURER:
DON ASHLEY

IMMEDIATE PAST
PRESIDENT:
CHARLES G. BROWN, III

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
JULIE MAHES

DIRECTORS:

TERMS EXPIRING 2001:
BARNEY DUFFY
LORRAINE GRANT
REN KOCH
BETTY WILLIAMS

TERMS EXPIRING 2002:
RANDY DUNN
H. RICHARD LEWELLYN
MARIANNA MIZI

TERMS EXPIRING 2003:
W. KEVIN RUSSELL
LARRY SANDLES

GOVERNMENT
REPRESENTATIVES:

JAN WINERS
COUNTY OF CHARLOTTE

WILLARD BECK
CITY OF PUNTA GORDA

FRED WALES
CHARLOTTE COUNTY
AIRPORT AUTHORITY

SUE SHERI
CHARLOTTE COUNTY
SCHOOL BOARD

June 13, 2001

Jack Shreve
PSC Public Counsel
812 Pepper Building
111 West Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Dear Mr. Shreve:

State Representative Jerry Paul, District 71, asked that we forward you a copy of our final testimony regarding the Public Service Commission's proposal for area code relief for the 941 area code.

Please find enclosed the testimony presented on behalf of the Chamber before the Public Service Commission on May 24. It was a pleasure to learn from our Executive Director and the media that the speakers agreed that alternative #4, a geographic split at the Lee County line would be best for our community.

Please include our testimony in the June 18 PSC hearing in Tallahassee.

Sincerely,

Pat Comber
President

cc: Representative Jerry Paul

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2001

Office Of
Public Counsel

I am Julie Mathis, Executive Director of the Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber Board prefers the geographic split identified in your material at Alternative 4, at the Lee County line. In addition, we do not support an overlay system.

As you know, Charlotte County includes the community of Englewood, which is half in our County and half in Sarasota County. We believe that any geographic split should coincide with county boundaries. To mark a river or a road as a cut-off point would be a man-made barrier that could significantly alter our sense of community.

We also believe that an overlay, or 10-digit dialing, would be very confusing to our elderly population. According to 2000 census bureau statistics, Charlotte County is the nation's second oldest county, with a median age of 54.3 years. Charlotte County remains the state's oldest county, and we are ranked number two in the state with 3.6% of our population over 85 years of age. Sarasota County is number-one with 4% of its population over 85. I am not suggesting that our seniors are unable to dial ten numbers, but I do question why we would ask them to do so when it would be confusing and disruptive for so many.

In addition, Charlotte County is a small business community, with 59.5% having only 1-4 employees. It will cost anywhere from \$1,000 to \$10,000 for these businesses to reprint letterhead, business cards, invoices, and promotional brochures that would include an area code. And, while I understand that you don't want to ask any business community to incur these costs, I think it makes a stronger argument for this community, with its majority of small businesses, to keep its area code.

I am also here today as a member of the County's Tourist Development Council, that for the first time ever has expended more than a half million dollars to promote all of Charlotte County - from Punta Gorda to Englewood - as one tourist destination. These promotional efforts have put us on the map all over the world and have strengthened the ties between Charlotte and Sarasota counties.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that if the area code must be changes, that it be done at the Charlotte-Lee County line and that you do not implement the overlay program.

I'm sure your staff has looked at this, but perhaps cell phones should have separate area

code, or codes if needed, throughout the county. If the use of cell phones and faxes is the reason for these hearings every two years, wouldn't a separate area code for them help solve the problem?

5/24/01



Gasparilla Island Conservation
and Improvement Association,
Inc.

PO. Box 446
131 First Street
Boca Grande, FL 33921
(941) 964-2667
Fax: (941) 964-0259
Gicia@ewol.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Subak
President

Thomas Burcham
Vice President

Cotton Hanley
Secretary

Michael Dacey
Treasurer

Philip Benton

William Buettin

Robert Frederick

Camille Kaufman

Nancy Martin

Richard Morrison

Kathleen Turner

STAFF

Misty Nabers
Executive Director

Trisha Lowe
Executive Assistant

Arthur Butler
Path Maintenance

June 13, 2001

Honorable Leon Jacobs, Chairman
Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2001

Office Of
Public Counsel

RE: Docket #000604-TL, Area Code Relief for the 941 Area Code

Dear Chairman Jacobs:

Thank you for visiting the communities that will be affected by the 941 Area Code Relief Plan. I attended the meeting held in Port Charlotte and was pleased to see such a showing of community support and interest in such an important matter as the area code relief plan.

I am sure you will agree, the Charlotte County Citizens who spoke at the meeting unanimously agreed that the alternative #4 "geographic split-Punta Gorda North" is the most feasible and desired plan for our area. Many reasons were provided that gave validity to this argument for example; schools, hospitals, and other service facilities tie many of our communities together even though they are separated by distance. Case and point, although residents of Gasparilla Island are separated from Englewood by a bridge our communities are tied by the fact that our children attend Charlotte County Schools, and the nearest hospital is Englewood Community Hospital.

To complicate matters further Gasparilla Island is split into two counties. The northern 1/3 of the island is Charlotte County and the southern 2/3 is Lee County. As you well know, Fort Myers is the County seat and located 75 miles from Boca Grande. Although the larger portion of Gasparilla Island is located in Lee County it is the consensus of our membership that Boca Grande, if given a choice, would like to remain in the 941 are code district along with Charlotte County.

It was not that many years ago residents of Boca Grande enjoyed four-digit dialing of numbers on Gasparilla Island. Although we all realize those days are long gone, it does seem unreasonable to impose such a small geographically remote island with the complications that would arise from being assigned two different area codes.

The GICIA Board of Directors urge you to consider the implications of further dividing our communities and implement "alternative #4: Geographic Split -Punta Gorda North". If you have any questions regarding our support on this issue please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Misty Nabers
Executive Director





Venice Area Chamber of Commerce and Better Business Department

June 13, 2001

Officers

President Don Hay
Salomon Smith Barney
President Elect Tom Taylor, Jr.
Taylor Ranch, Inc.
Past President Jeffery A. Boone
Boone, Boone, Boone, Hines & Koda
Treasurer Brian Meurs
RE/MAX Properties
Vice President Pat MacKenzie
South County Printing
Vice President Mike Miller
Waterford Homes
Vice President Scott Pinkerton
A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.

Directors

Phillip Ellis
First Union National Bank
Mike Guley
Bon Secours-Venice Hospital
Fred Hind, A.S.I.D.
Fred Hind Interiors, Inc.
Barbara Jernigan
Barbara Jernigan, Marketing Consultant
James Kuhlman
Premier Community Bank
Kathy Lehner
Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate
Ali Levine
Venice High School
Alan Maio
Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc.
Larry McCarthy
Associate Member
Vicki Taylor
Heartland Home Healthcare
Jean Trammell
The Venice Company
Bill Willson
Roberts Nationwide Insurance
Jim Woods
Manatee Community College Venice

John G. Ryan
Executive Director



Jack Shreve
PSC Public Council
812 Pepper Building
111 West Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Dear Mr. Shreve,

RE: Docket No. 000604-TL, Area Code Relief for the 941 Area Code

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the 1100 business members of the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce, please accept this letter of support for Alternative 4, Geographic Split – Punta Gorda North, as outlined by the Florida Public Service Commission.

Recently I provided testimony at a public hearing held in Sarasota and made the following three points.

- 1) It is our opinion that this alternative is the most acceptable to meet both business and public concerns. A geographic split would eliminate the confusion caused by a distributed overlay alternative and keep Sarasota and Charlotte counties aligned with the same area code.
- 2) Based on #1, the new area code established should be assigned to the area with the lowest population, thereby impacting the least number of individuals and businesses.
- 3) A suitable alternative to those provided would be to assign a separate area code to cellular phones and paging systems within the 941 area code.

The Venice Area Chamber of Commerce would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this extremely important decision.

Sincerely,


Don Hay
President

(Temporary Address)

333 South Tamiami Trail, Suite 225 • Venice, Florida 34285

Phone (941) 488-2236 • Fax (941) 484-5903

website: www.VeniceChamber.com • email: VChamber@VeniceChamber.com

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2001

Office Of
Public Counsel



*It's **PURE** Economics*

June 14, 2001

Jack Shreve, Esquire
PSC Public Counsel
812 Pepper Building
111 West Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

RE: Docket #000604 – TL.Area Code Relief for the 941 Area Code

Dear Mr. Shreve:

Representative Jerry Paul has advised there will be a final public hearing on this issue before the PSC on June 18th in Tallahassee and arrangements have been made for additional written input to be inserted into the record for the hearing.

Proposed relief plan alternative #4 "geographic split – Punta Gorda North" is the most feasible and represents the one plan with the least detrimental economic impact on Charlotte County.

The Board of County Commissioners approved funding for an Economic Development Office in February of this year. To that end, we are building consensus within the County to unify the business community. Maintaining the 941 area code would assist in that regard.

Our County has geographic challenges within its boundaries, i.e. the unincorporated community of Englewood is in two counties and Englewood and Port Charlotte have two State House District boundaries. The services within the County are more aligned with Sarasota County to the north, thus the more logical alternative for the 941 area code is number four.

Please implement alternative #4 "geographic split – Punta Gorda North".

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty H. Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Betty H. Williams
Economic Development Manager

BHW/kmk

cc: Representative Jerry Paul