



Public Service Commission

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: July 27, 2001
TO: Blanca Bayo, Director of Records and Reporting
FROM: Bob Casey, Regulatory Analyst Supervisor, Division of Competitive Services *rbg*
RE: Docket No. 990457-TL, Area Code Relief for the 954 NPA

Please place the attached July 19, 2001 e-mail from Mr. Howard Cohen, and Bob Casey's July 27, 2001 e-mail response in the above official docket file. Thank You.

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DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

Bob Casey

From: Bob Casey
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2001 11:50 AM
To: 'howiec@mediaone.net'
Cc: Cheryl Bulecza-Banks; Levent Ileri; Pamela Duck; Ruth McHargue; Pamela Johnson; Matilda Sanders; Della Fordham; Walter D'Haeseleer; Beth Salak
Subject: The new 754 Area Code

Mr. Cohen:

Thank you for your e-mail of July 19, 2001 to the Commission concerning the 754 area code in Broward County. On December 4, 2000, the North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA), the organization responsible for the assignment of new area codes in North America, announced that the new overlay area code for Broward County would be 754. Although we originally had some concerns over how similar the new overlay 754 area code would be to the existing 954 area code, no complaints or concerns were relayed to the Florida Public Service Commission after the news media made the announcement public in Broward County.

The North American Numbering Plan is running short of available three-digit number combinations for area code relief. There are presently less than forty available codes for North America. We were also advised by NANPA that other available number combinations could cause code conflicts in the South Florida area.

Since many businesses and residences have already made preparations for the new 754 area code after the news release last December, it is too late in the process to make any changes. However, we do appreciate your comments, and will file them in the official docket file here at the Commission. Thank You.

Robert J. Casey
Regulatory Analyst Supervisor
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Competitive Services Division
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MP/D'Haesele

CA Official Filing:

7/20/01*****9:48 AM*****Matilda Sanders*****1

Matilda Sanders

From: Ruth McHargue
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2001 9:48 AM
To: Matilda Sanders
Cc: Pamela Johnson
Subject: FW: New Area Code in Broward County

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I believe this is docket correspondence.

-----Original Message-----

From: Pamela Duck
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2001 8:35 AM
To: Ruth McHargue
Subject: FW: New Area Code in Broward County

2001 JUL 20 PM 3:36
OFFICE OF
COMPETITIVE SERVICES

-----Original Message-----

From: Howard S. Cohen [mailto:howiec@mediaone.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2001 10:55 PM
To: contact@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: New Area Code in Broward County

To Whom It May Concern:

I was reading recently about the decision to add a second, "overlay" area code to Broward County, Florida, and the upcoming requirement for mandatory 10-digit dialing. When Broward County was assigned the 954 area code, I did not have a problem with the new area code. I also do not have a problem with 10-digit dialing. However, I do foresee a problem and tremendous confusion with the assignment of the chosen overlay area code, 754, for Broward County, Florida.

Previously, when an overlay area code was assigned, the overlay area code was significantly different than the existing area code. For example, Miami-Dade County, Florida, was assigned the overlay area code 786 ("SUN"). This was significantly different than their existing area code, 305.

However, the assignment of 754 as the overlay area code in Broward County, Florida, where the existing area code is 954, may lead to confusion as well as objection by some businesses. Although this may not be a problem for businesses that include their area code on business

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J1***9:48 AM*****Matilda Sanders*****2**

ards and letterhead, many phone numbers are communicated verbally. And since there is only one digit that is different between the two area codes, someone who is provided with a phone number with the 754 area code but familiar with Broward County, Florida's existing area code, 954, might think that an error was made and attempt to dial the phone number using the 954 area code.

I would like to suggest that the Public Service Commission reconsider its choice of 754 as the overlay area code for Broward County and choose a different area code that might not cause as much confusion.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Howard S. Cohen